

19980218.qrp v01_n005.qrs.980218

Date: Wed, 18 Feb 1998 19:04:33 EST
From: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: QRP-L digest 1005

QRP-L Digest 1005

Topics covered in this issue include:

- 1) [4100] Re: Source of RF Propagation Charts?
by olyellr@iglou.com
- 2) [4101] Re: New QRP Radio
by Stanley Wilson <microres@crl.com>
- 3) [4102] Re: New QRP Radio
by Michael Neverdosky <MichaelN@cycat.com>
- 4) [4103] Re: RF probe question
by Chuck and Michele Snyder <csnyder@nextdim.com>
- 5) [4104] RE: Binocular toroid winding
by tracy@orlando.com (Tracy)
- 6) [4105] Re: Need computer cw EXPERT ADVICE
by "John J. McDonough" <jjmcd@mdn.net>
- 7) [4106] N/T+ FOX K8VZU on LOUD!
by "Wilford D. Lindsey" <70511.3041@compuserve.com>
- 8) [4107] RE: Digi 'stuff'
by "Rod Logsdon" <bike4life@bikerider.com>
- 9) [4108] Re: Need computer cw EXPERT ADVICE
by "W. Daniel, 9V1ZV" <daniel@pandora.lugs.org.sg>
- 10) [4109] Toroid Demo Program
by Bruce Hopkins - KL7JAF <kl7jaf@polarnet.com>
- 11) [4110] FYBO'98 PIX
by "Bob Edwards, W4ED" <w4ed@flash.net>
- 12) [4111] re:QRP-L Number
by Chuck and Michele Snyder <csnyder@nextdim.com>
- 13) [4112] RF Probes
by George Gingell <k3tks@u1.abs.net>
- 14) [4113] Re: Dead Fox!
by Shepherd@aol.com
- 15) [4114] re:QRP-L Number
by "Ron Smith" <resmith@primenet.com>
- 16) [4115] Thanks, I am confused enough now :-)
by jdenison@morelr.com (JOEL DENISON)
- 17) [4116] FOX the easy way
by adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (Chuck Adams)
- 18) [4117] Floating Verticals and sloppy code.
by Michael Maiorana <mikemo@ibm.net>
- 19) [4118] Golden Fox sang at K0EVZ!!

- by "Wilford D. Lindsey" <70511.3041@compuserve.com>
- 20) [4119] Amidon Discounts and W2FMI
by tracy@orlando.com (Tracy)
- 21) [4120] ATTN: Houston QRP-ers
by "Wilford D. Lindsey" <70511.3041@compuserve.com>
- 22) [4121] Re: Floating Verticals and sloppy code.
by Monte Stark <ku7y@sage.dri.edu>
- 23) [4122] Tnx for N/T+ pelt tonite!
by "Wilford D. Lindsey" <70511.3041@compuserve.com>
- 24) [4123] Help with noise interference
by "Timothy J. Pettibone" <tpettibo@nmsu.edu>
- 25) [4124] QRZ? K5FO, & FOX comments
by gsurrency@juno.com (Gary L Surrency)
- 26) [4125] "Power Station" gel-cells
by k7sz@juno.com
- 27) [4126] [Fwd: Radio Shack Freq Counter - Help Please]
by "George T. Baker" <w5yr@swbell.net>
- 28) [4127] FS: HWA-9 Bandpack accessory kit
by Multi-Volti Devices <multi-volti@softhouse.com>
- 29) [4128] RF Probe Questions -- Elmer101
by adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (Chuck Adams)
- 30) [4129] Fox Report N6WG (L0000NG)
by Tellefsen Bob-CNSE97 <cns97@lmpsil02.comm.mot.com>
- 31) [4130] 49'er and St. Louis Tuner Boards
by Jerry Parker <jparker@fix.net>
- 32) [4131] RE: QQ Address Error -- JOY OF QRP
by Adrian Weiss <aweiss@sunflowr.usd.edu>
- 33) [4132] Re: Floating Verticals and sloppy code.
by Kory Hamzeh <kory@avatar.com>
- 34) [4133] Re: rf probe
by Leon Heller <leon@lfheller.demon.co.uk>
- 35) [4134] Re: Help with noise interference
by "Harvey D. D. Hetland" <n6mm@earthlink.net>
- 36) [4135] 2M or 6M QRP
by "Robert D. Brown" <bogateer@vegasnet.net>
- 37) [4136] RS 22-305
by Tom Upton <stjohn@ocsnet.net>
- 38) [4137] RE: RS Freq Counter - Help Please
by Conrad <radman@best.com>
- 39) [4138] New Impedance (and RF-1) related software (with plotting)
by Gardner / Maguire <bagardn@ibm.net>
- 40) [4139] RF probe tip
by Bill Meara <wmeara@erols.com>
- 41) [4140] Re: Important Dayton Info
by Richard Powell <ripowell@mpna.com>
- 42) [4141] Re: Important Dayton Info
by Richard Powell <ripowell@mpna.com>
- 43) [4142] QRP-L password?

by Arjen Raateland <Arjen.Raateland@vyh.fi>
44) [4143] 6m QRP
by "Scott Rosenfeld [NF3I]" <ham@w3eax.umd.edu>
45) [4144] RF probes
by "Scott Rosenfeld [NF3I]" <ham@w3eax.umd.edu>
46) [4145] Re: "Power Station" gel-cells
by LYN WILLIAMS <designserv@ipass.net>
47) [4146] Re: Floating Verticals and sloppy code.
by LYN WILLIAMS <designserv@ipass.net>
48) [4147] RE: Digi 'stuff' and FISTS
by Chuck Carpenter <w5usj@webwide.net>
49) [4148] Re: QRP-L Number
by Jim Eshleman <lujce@hooch.CC.Lehigh.EDU>
50) [4149] Re: QRP-L password?
by Jim Eshleman <lujce@hooch.CC.Lehigh.EDU>
51) [4150] FOX Tuesday
by Bob Hightower <ki7mn@dancris.com>
52) [4151] Re: AR QRP 80 meter net a wash out
by Jim <kj5tf@mctc.com>
53) [4152] WTD: Source for Norcal project cases
by John Evans - N0HJ <jae Evans@codenet.net>
54) [4153] AR 40M QRP net tonight 7PM
by Jim <kj5tf@mctc.com>
55) [4154] Re: QRP-L password?
by adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (Chuck Adams)
56) [4155] FCC question pool website and C-64 manuals
by John Burnley <JBurnley@ifmc.org>
57) [4156] QRP Kit
by sgordon1@ibm.net
58) [4157] Re: QRP-L password?
by Arjen Raateland <Arjen.Raateland@vyh.fi>
59) [4158] Re: 2M or 6M QRP
by "Bill Kelsey - N8ET - Kanga US" <kanga@bright.net>
60) [4159] Ten-Tec kit order placed!
by "Scott Rosenfeld [NF3I]" <ham@w3eax.umd.edu>
61) [4160] Solar Panel Output Regulation
by Sam Billingsley <SBillingsley@usaninc.com>
62) [4161] Re: 2M or 6M QRP, which one?
by Jack Parker <Pparker@greatbasin.net>
63) [4162] RE: FCC question pool website and C-64 manuals
by Kevin Muenzler <wb5rue@stic.net>
64) [4163] new QRP radio
by crc <crc@io.com>
65) [4164] Re: Floating Verticals
by Ed Manuel <n5em@flash.net>
66) [4165] Texas Curtain
by n4js@pobox.com
67) [4166] RE: Floating Verticals

- by Kevin Muenzler <wb5rue@stic.net>
- 68) [4167] Re: Floating Verticals and sloppy code.
by Vic Rosenthal <rakefet@rakefet.com>
- 69) [4168] Elmer101: 1N34A SPICE model
by adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (Chuck Adams)
- 70) [4169] Re: sloppy code.
by Monte Stark <ku7y@sage.dri.edu>
- 71) [4170] WTD: Unbuilt Norcal Sierra Kit
by John Evans - N0HJ <jaevans@codenet.net>
- 72) [4171] Re: Solar Panel Output Regualtion
by LYN WILLIAMS <designserv@ipass.net>
- 73) [4172] Re: QRP Kit
by GERALDCUND@aol.com
- 74) [4173] Re: Solar Panel Output Regualtion
by "S. Lee" <slee@u.washington.edu>
- 75) [4174] Re: Solar Panel Output Regualtion
by LYN WILLIAMS <designserv@ipass.net>
- 76) [4175] Re: sloppy code.
by Jim Eshleman <lujce@hooch.cc.Lehigh.EDU>
- 77) [4176] Re: Solar Panel Output Regualtion
by K5BDZ@aol.com
- 78) [4177] First Announcement of the MARCH SPARTAN SPRINT
by Russ Carpenter <russ@natworld.com>
- 79) [4178] Re: Solar Panel Output Regualtion
by LYN WILLIAMS <designserv@ipass.net>
- 80) [4179] Re: Solar Panel Output Regualtion
by dave_epps@juno.com
- 81) [4180] Ade Weiss /FOX question
by Larry Cruise <Larry.Cruise@mci.com>
- 82) [4181] Re: Solar Panel Output Regualtion
by Andy Fox <foxes@theriver.com>
- 83) [4182] Re: sloppy code.
by Ed Loranger <we6w@qsl.net>
- 84) [4183] Re: "Power Station" gel-cells
by LYN WILLIAMS <designserv@ipass.net>
- 85) [4184] More QRP DX Tales - 9M0C
by Gary Hembree <Gary.Hembree@asu.edu>
- 86) [4185] CW Advice Wanted
by Andy Fox <foxes@theriver.com>
- 87) [4186] 1000 miles per watt
by "QRPDave" <QRPDave@ocsnet.net>
- 88) [4187] From the magazines
by Laura Halliday <ve7ldh@direct.ca>
- 89) [4188] Re: sloppy code.
by LYN WILLIAMS <designserv@ipass.net>
- 90) [4189] Re: CW Advice Wanted
by "Scott Rosenfeld [NF3I]" <ham@w3eax.umd.edu>
- 91) [4190] Re: Solar Panel Output Regualtion

by K5BDZ@aol.com

92) [4191] Re: Important Dayton Info
by Ed Manuel <n5em@flash.net>

93) [4192] FOX: W5FN Preliminary Results
by Tim Ahrens <tahrens@inetport.com>

94) [4193] Re: CW Advice Wanted
by David Williams <dwilliam@cisgw3.law.pace.edu>

95) [4194] Re: "Power Station" gel-cells
by "Robert P. Okas" <vintage@best.com>

96) [4195] FOXHUNT: Quickie State Standings
by Chris Cartwright <ccart@dns.vidtel.com>

97) [4196] Re: Important Dayton Info
by LYN WILLIAMS <designserv@ipass.net>

98) [4197] Re: CW Advice Wanted
by Vic Rosenthal <rakefet@rakefet.com>

99) [4198] FOXHUNT: Quickie State Standings (oops)
by Chris Cartwright <ccart@dns.vidtel.com>

100) [4199] Re: CW Advice Wanted
by Ed Loranger <we6w@qsl.net>

101) [4200] Re: Solar Panel Output Regualtion (fwd)
by "S. Lee" <slee@u.washington.edu>

102) [4201] RS 22-305 Frequency Counter
by Tom Upton <stjohn@ocsnet.net>

103) [4202] Re: CW Advice Wanted
by Ed <edn4pk@VoyagerOnline.net>

104) [4203] folk lore
by mike@krypton.nmr.Hawaii.Edu (Mike W. Burger)

105) [4204] RE: CW Advice Wanted
by Kevin Muenzler WB5RUE <wb5rue@stic.net>

106) [4205] Tuna Tin Parts Layout Error!!!!!!
by ki6ds@dpol.k12.ca.us (Hendricks, Doug)

107) [4206] NorCal Cases
by ki6ds@dpol.k12.ca.us (Hendricks, Doug)

108) [4207] RE: folk lore
by "Caro, Carlos" <carlos.caro@lmco.com>

109) [4208] T-T Scout
by k7sz@juno.com

110) [4209] re: Important Dayton info
by "Rich Dailey, KA8OKH" <ka8okh@som-uky.campus.mci.net>

111) [4210] Re: CW Advice Wanted
by Andy Fox <foxes@theriver.com>

112) [4211] pile-up about what?
by "Arjen Raateland, FEI/Impacts Research" <Arjen.Raateland@vyh.fi>

113) [4212] RE: "Power Station" gel-cells
by tracy@orlando.com (Tracy)

114) [4213] TechAmerica Sales -- Anyone?
by Ed Loranger <we6w@qsl.net>

115) [4214] Fox: N/T Fox Feb 21, W2MBY

by W2MY & W2MBY <n2mnn@spacegate.com>
116) [4215] Re: "Power Station" gel-cells
by "Michael A. Gipe" <mgipe@reliablemeters.com>
117) [4216] Re: FOX: W5FN Preliminary Results
by N9DD@aol.com
118) [4217] Re: pile-up about what?
by Paul Erickson <paul1@wizard.ucs.sfu.ca>
119) [4218] Re: pile-up about what?
by "Michael A. Gipe" <mgipe@reliablemeters.com>
120) [4219] SG-2020 update
by AC6JA@aol.com
121) [4220] Pixie2 Problem
by "William S. M. Bae" <wbae@sprint.ca>

Date: Tue, 17 Feb 1998 19:01:19 -0500
From: olyellr@iglou.com
To: n2mnn@spacegate.com, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [4100] Re: Source of RF Propagation Charts?
Message-ID: <3.0.5.32.19980217190119.007efbe0@iglou.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

At 06:47 PM 2/17/98 -0500, W2MY & W2MBY wrote:
>I had located a few months ago an excellent source of Amateur Radio RF
>propagation charts at <http://world.att.net/~jerhall/charts/>. The site
>apparently no longer exists. I remember that you clicked on two areas
>of the globe, and then obtained a color chart.
>
>Does anyone have the updated URL, or another URL of a similar site?
>
>Steve, W2MY
>

Try this address.
I ran into the same problem and somehow found it thru this address:

<http://www.concentric.net/~jerrhall/>

73, Mike L.
KE4HLU
FISTS #4139
QRP-L #1395

Date: Tue, 17 Feb 1998 16:22:20 -0800 (PST)
From: Stanley Wilson <microres@crl.com>
To: ALK0FRP@aol.com
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [4101] Re: New QRP Radio
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.980217161641.19330B-100000@crl10.crl.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

It is kind of large, please consider making it fit inside of a wrist watch. That way it will always be handy in case I need to make a contact while driving, walking, sleeping, etc.

Oh yes, it uses too much current, need to use a smaller battery size, maybe you could add a voltage doubling and current multiplier.

Color has to be green or maybe blue, and you need to sell it as a list time.. Need a big discount for list members

Also be sure to notify the list everyday of the mfg status. Maybe you can assign serial numbers based on order entry.

de stan ak0b

PS have you ship mine yet ?

Date: Tue, 17 Feb 1998 19:29:51 -0500
From: Michael Neverdosky <MichaelN@cycat.com>
To: qrp-1 mailing list <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [4102] Re: New QRP Radio
Message-ID: <34EA2B7F.B1C8FF77@cycat.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Actually, we can get very close to these specs, and deliver in about 1 year.

The only trick is you have to buy 2 million units.

BTW, it would not really be a kit as nearly the whole radio would be on 1

or
2 chips and it will be cheaper to sell the radio ready to operate. It also
would
be non-repairable, cheaper to just replace it in case of a problem. :-))

You would be amazed what the big companies will do for a multi million
unit
chip order. :-))

michael N6CHV

AlK0FRP@aol.com wrote:

>
> A new radio to solve everyones problems.

> It may take a while to get this to market , have to design it, buy the parts
> for the prototype and give out parts for others to build so I can work
> somebody, build it, troubleshoot it , build series A,B,C and market it.
> Please Send all your unused MONEY to ME for product development. NO
> GUARANTEES OF RETURN ON INVESTMENT. Years in the making , But keep going to
> Dayton for future announcements
> BUT THIS RADIO WILL SOLVE ALL PROBLEMS EXCEPT
> IT WON'T BE FUN ANY MORE.
>
> AL K0FRP (Its not even the first week in July)

Date: Tue, 17 Feb 1998 16:55:11 -0800
From: Chuck and Michele Snyder <csnyder@nextdim.com>
To: dave_epps@juno.com
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [4103] Re: RF probe question
Message-ID: <34EA316F.67ECEE69@nextdim.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Wayne,

Is that the RF probe info that you copied for me? If yes, let's try an
meet sometime soon so I can get a copy. Thanks.

Chuck ;-)

dave_epps@juno.com wrote:

> There is a good article to build a high impedance analog test meter in
> the
> Mar. '98 73 mag.
> dave ab5pc fresno, ca.
> On Mon, 16 Feb 1998 18:07:20 -0800 "Wayne Barnhart" <wb7whi@triax.com>
> writes:
> >First, for those that don't have an RF probe for their meters there is
> >an
> >article in 73, the Nov 96 issue that explains how to design the probe
> >for
> >the specific input resistance of your meter. Now, about the probe
> >itself...
> >I know it is traditional for the RF probe to be a combination of probe
> >and
> >circuitry but I was wondering if this was a design by necessity. I was
> >thinking of cutting a pair of test leads in half and building the
> >circuitry
> >device with a gosinta and a comesouta to which the leads would be
> >attached
> >or hardwired in. This would offer the advantage of having standard
> >test
> >probe ends on which things could be attached, like alligator clips
> >and,
> >well things.
> >Otherwise I be looking at a nail, some dowel and a 5in. section of 1/2
> >inch
> >copper tubing and lots 'o black tape.
> >
> >Thanks
> >
> >Wayne WB7WHI
> >Spokane, Wa.
> >
> >
> >
> >
> >
> >
> >
> -----
> You don't need to buy Internet access to use free Internet e-mail.
> Get completely free e-mail from Juno at <http://www.juno.com>
> Or call Juno at (800) 654-JUNO [654-5866]

Date: Tue, 17 Feb 1998 19:32:36 -0500
From: tracy@orlando.com (Tracy)
To: "'we6w@qsl.net'" <we6w@qsl.net>, "QRP-L (E-mail)" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [4104] RE: Binocular toroid winding
Message-ID: <01BD3BDF.77669800.tracy@orlando.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

OOPS.

I guess I should pay more attention to my own typing!

Tracy, N4LGH
#1453

-----Original Message-----

From: Ed Loranger [SMTP:we6w@qsl.net]
Sent: Tuesday, February 17, 1998 6:54 PM
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion
Subject: Re: Binocular toroid winding

Excellent website. I found a small error in the link you sent. Here's where I found it:

<http://www.bytemark.com/amidon/multcor.htm>

Thankyou Very Much Tracy.
-Ed Loranger

Tracy wrote:

>
> We call them "Multi-Aperture Cores."
>
> When a conductor is passed through one hole, and then back through the
> other, it is considered one "turn." Using this method it is possible to get
> a one turn, center tapped coil. (not possible on a toroid.)
>
> You can find more information at
> <http://www.bytemark.com/amidon/multcore.htm>
>
> DeMaw used to use six toroids to form one of these, two sets of three
> placed side by side. The single-form unit is much easier to use, and was
> designed for this purpose.
>
> Hope that helps.
> Tracy Markham, N4LGH

> ByteMark / Amidon
> #1453

--

72, Ed, WE6W/qrp CW ONLY; Proud Member: QRP-L/ARCI/Norcal/ARS/AR
<http://www.qsl.net/we6w> (Enjoying Ham Radio every day.)

Date: Tue, 17 Feb 1998 19:59:20 -0500
From: "John J. McDonough" <jjmcd@mdn.net>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrpl@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [4105] Re: Need computer cw EXPERT ADVICE
Message-ID: <199802180111.5898700@midland2.mdn.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=ISO-8859-1
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

> Is it possible to get the audio from the qrp-plus through my
modem
> and to the program in the computer.

There's a guy named Turing who proved years ago that almost anything is possible, but does it make sense? Not always.

Specifically, a modem is probably the wrong thing for CW. There are a number of programs which allow you to take audio into a sound card and interpret the CW. This is probably the path of least resistance. You could also build something simple to convert the CW tone to DC and bring that into a printer port. But a modem is a bad fit.

> Can I get it to actually xmit from the computer?

This is a lot easier - as someone already mentioned, going from a printer port is a simple matter, tho again, some isolation and level conversion may be in order.

> If I can get this working I should be able to find a rtty program
somewhere
> and try that also.

There's a program called BTL does RTTY through the sound card. one messy bit with RTTY is that you need 2 frequencies. If you're not going to build some hardware, this probably means taking audio from the cvomputer into an SSB rig. I can't imagine that will be all that clean! BTL does put RTTY tones out the speaker of the sound card for transmit.

One side note - most of the programs available are for DOS, largely because it's a LOT easier to do this sort of thing from DOS than from Windoze. But putting a lot of features into a DOS program usually means a real complicated interface.

A lot of these DOS programs will work from inside an 'MS-DOS Prompt' window, but none of them will work WELL, because this sort of thing tends to be timing-dependent, and every so often, Windoze will go off to do it's own thing, and your DOS program is stopped in the meantime. A lot of the time this is no big deal, but if you were sending a dit and Windoze decided to run off for a second or two, it could be pretty annoying. This is less of a problem if your computer is fast, and doesn't have a lot of stuff plugged into it.

Hope this helps,
73 de WB8RCR

Date: Tue, 17 Feb 1998 20:06:25 -0500
From: "Wilford D. Lindsey" <70511.3041@compuserve.com>
To: QRP-L Discussion Group <QRP-L@Lehigh.EDU>, "Doc W.D. Lindsey/K0EVZ" <70511.3041@compuserve.com>
Subject: [4106] N/T+ FOX K8VZU on LOUD!
Message-ID: <199802172010_MC2-33B6-D5B4@compuserve.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Disposition: inline

Gang:

Dan K8VZU is just beginning his second full hour as N/T+ Fox tonight. He is rocking in here at 569+ on 7.140.1. Go get him! I got him at .95 watts out of the Sierra to the dipole at 28' fed with 300-ohm window line thru the ZM-2 tuner. He has some great ears, that FOX!!

As you are probably aware, this is Dan's last outing as N/T+ Fox. He has successfully upgraded. So let's make this last outing one to remember.

BTW, he is a good hunter, too--he snagged Tim W5FN last evening :-).

72/73,

--Doc/K0EVZ qrp-l 861 norcal 2050 cqz 414 ARS 311 FISTS 3868 mn-qrp 19

nj-qrp 69 ak/qrp 139 ar/qrp 73 hi/qrp 30 ARCI 9398 CQC 29305
ARRL DXCC 143/85 Grid EN34 <>< FOXes 2/17/98 = 30. A 1997/98 FOX.

Omni V Corsair I Yaesu FT-900CAT Wilderness Sierra SW-40 49er
Mercury Paddles Emtech ZM-2 MFJ 259 MFJ 941D Matchbox GAP Titan
TNT/2 Windom SLV/W6MMA G5RV Timewave 599zx Auttek QF-1 RS DSP-40

"Things should be as simple as possible, but no simpler"--A. Einstein

Date: Tue, 17 Feb 1998 19:34:25 +0000
From: "Rod Logsdon" <bike4life@bikerider.com>
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [4107] RE: Digi 'stuff'
Message-ID: <19980218012649.DEZQ24024@[206.141.220.140]>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII
Content-transfer-encoding: 7BIT

> At 08:50 AM 2/17/98 PST, you wrote:
>
> >Fists membership is going up through the roof. I joined
> >a year or so ago, and my membership # is 2644. They are
> >over 4000 now.
> >
>
> Speaking of FISTS, did anyone else hear the guy calling 'CQ FISTS' smack dab
> on 7.040 Saturday? Stayed there for a couple of hours late afternoon.
>
> 73,
> Bob KI7MN (ki7mn@dancris.com) Chandler, AZ
> NorCal #1221 ARCI #8918 Qrp-l #271 CQC #274 AK QRP #30 ARRL
> <http://www.dancris.com/~ki7mn>
>
>

Bob:
He was 599 here in Northern Illinois.

72/73 de Rod Logsdon ... WK9T
Carol Stream, IL
QRP-L # 616 ARS # 153
E-mail: bike4life@bikerider.com

Date: Wed, 18 Feb 1998 10:04:18 +0800
From: "W. Daniel, 9V1ZV" <daniel@pandora.lugs.org.sg>
To: jjmcd@mdn.net
Cc: qrp@pandora.lugs.org.sg
Subject: [4108] Re: Need computer cw EXPERT ADVICE
Message-ID: <34ea41a4.pandora@pandora.lugs.org.sg>

On Tue, 17 Feb 1998 19:59:20 -0500, "John J. McDonough" <jjmcd@mdn.net> wrote:
> A lot of these DOS programs will work from inside an 'MS-DOS Prompt'
> window, but none of them will work WELL, because this sort of thing tends
> to be timing-dependent, and every so often, Windoze will go off to do it's
> own thing, and your DOS program is stopped in the meantime. A lot of the

Well, that's not entirely true. BTL, for example, runs quite well inside a DOS window, so does RiTTY. I think it is because they are not as CPU timing dependent in their sampling loop as they are probably utilizing the Soundcard's internal sampling clock and DMA for sampling. I've been using both under DOS windows and have not found a problem yet.

Programs like HAMCOMM are more prone to timing disruptions because they depend on the CPU availability for their sampling loop. Even, then, for receive purposes only, they work quite okay under a DOS window so long as you don't go switching windows. For transmit it is another story altogether, especially if you are using the serial port for outputting the AFSK signal. When you use the PC speaker to generate the signal, the tone generation is handled by the hardware clock generator and this is less CPU intensive than when you ask JVFAX or HAMCOMM to generate the AFSK themselves for output on the serial ports.

I wouldn't say that "none of them will work WELL". That really needs to be qualified.

73 de 9V1ZV Daniel

--
+-----+-----+
Daniel Wee	daniel@pandora.lugs.org.sg
9V1ZV	
QRP-L #667	9V1ZV@amsat.org
+-----+-----+

Date: Tue, 17 Feb 1998 17:28:52 -0900
From: Bruce Hopkins - KL7JAF <kl7jaf@polarnet.com>

To: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [4109] Toroid Demo Program
Message-ID: <v03007800b10ff61e75c9@[204.119.24.97]>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

Hi Gang...

I received the following notice of a "Toroid Demo Program" in the Alaska QRP Club mailbox today and thought that it might be of interest to some of our viewers... I will quote it in its entirety rather than try to paraphrase it...

We have written a Toroid software package for use DC to 300 Mhz. Many Years of research has gone into error corrections for the low perm cores , 200 & 360 degree coverage as well as SRF for series and shunt coils. Much of this has come about as a request from Micrometals. The pin point accuracy allows us to add a custom core feature for custom shaped cores, stacking cores side by side and machining custom phenolic cores from plastic, teflon, wood, ect...

Down load a demo or just view the software main screen at our web

<http://members.aol.com/Toroids/johnindx.htm>

or click below

Best Regards John Bellora @ B&E Engineering Software
B and E Engineering

Hope that this is of some interest to some of you... Wish it was not quite so crippled... Take care and have fun...

72 / 73 / oo's - Bruce - KL7JAF

"Alaska QRP Club" - Web Site: <http://www2.polarnet.com/~bhopkins/akqrp>

***** ALASKA QSO PARTY - MARCH 21ST & 22ND 1998 *****
See AKQRP Web Site for Details

Date: Tue, 17 Feb 1998 21:56:06 -0500
From: "Bob Edwards, W4ED" <w4ed@flash.net>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>

Subject: [4110] FYB0'98 PIX
Message-ID: <34EA4DC6.CE9E6A52@flash.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Added pixs of rig & SLV-ish vertical support structure to WWW page below. The tin foil on the trunk is hard to see in the picture, but this foil coupled the mag mount base onto the car for the purpose of establishing a counter poise. This ~20 foot vertical with ATU worked well on 15/20m without a coil, but probably needed a loading coil for 40/80m.

--

Bob 72/73

<http://www.qsl.net/w4ed>

W4ED nr Atlanta @EM73wt

...."QRP", more from less....

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Date: Tue, 17 Feb 1998 18:56:50 -0800  
From: Chuck and Michele Snyder <csnyder@nextdim.com>  
To: QRP <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [4111] re:QRP-L Number  
Message-ID: <34EA4DF1.AEC8C1B7@nextdim.com>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hi All,

Ron Smith, KD7VD, a while back you gave me some info regarding the qrp-l number. Since I am a "Technician Class" wanna be (hopefully next month), do I have to have a call-sign to get my number? Or, do I have to wait until I pass the No-Code Tech exam and receive my ham license? Any comments would be kindly appreciated.

Chuck ;-)

-----



Bill used to own BlueRose Electronics. The finest source of QRPP bits you ever saw. Sure was sad to see him close the business.

R1 = 22 to 47 K ohm Res. or 3.9 Meg Ohm (Use with 10 Meg Ohm VOM)  
(4.14 Meg Ohm if you want better accuracy.)

On some rigs, it is handy just to add these three parts in several places on the circuit board and a test jack and you have instant tuning test point.

I will include a copy of Joe's handy reference chart.

| P-P Voltage | Rms Voltage | Power into 50 Ohm Load |
|-------------|-------------|------------------------|
| 0.707 Volts | 0.5 Volts   | 0.005 Watts            |
| 1.41        | 1.0         | 0.020                  |
| 2.24        | 1.58        | 0.050                  |
| 3.16        | 2.24        | 0.100                  |
| 4.47        | 3.16        | 0.200                  |
| 7.07        | 5.0         | 0.500                  |
| 10.0 Volts  | 7.07 Volts  | 1.000 Watts            |
| 14.4        | 10.0        | 2.000                  |
| 17.3        | 12.2        | 3.000                  |
| 20.0        | 14.1        | 4.000                  |
| 22.4        | 15.8        | 5.000 Watts (QRP Max.) |

Hope this helps.

OBTW for the OF on the list I have a V7A, 630, 260  
(Lab), and a Fluke 87. No, I ain't an Elmer.

Heck, I don't even know the secret handshake. I do have a real good library. :^) Knowing where to look is 50% of the answer.

If you don't have a Handbook or two, go and get yourself one.  
N8ET at Kanga US has some good prices on Books for the QRPer.  
"Bill (KANGA US 419.423.4604) Kelsey" <kanga@brutus.bright.net>

CUL on the bands

Sir George, The First :^)

72 ES

QRP DX TU (C) 1986, G. "Danny" Gingell, K3TKS@ abs.net  
QRP A.R.C.I. Net Manager and Board of Director Member.  
George D. Gingell, Jr. 3052 Fairland Road, Silver Spring, MD 20904-7117  
Maryland Milliwatt Club QRP Reference Library, (301)572-6789  
Maryland Milliwatt Club Founder and Trustee of Club Station KB3BVG  
Grid Square FM19mb 76.94 W - 39.06 N Silver Spring, MD 20904 QRPea.A.

-----  
Date: Tue, 17 Feb 1998 22:02:23 EST  
From: Shepherd@aol.com  
To: tahrens@inetport.com, qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [4113] Re: Dead Fox!  
Message-ID: <78a4b8b4.34ea4f41@aol.com>  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII  
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

In a message dated 2/16/98 11:34:37 PM Eastern Standard Time,  
tahrens@inetport.com writes:

> One of the new /AG guys got me! Glad you jumped in Dan..  
> was really rough copy, but I think I got it all!  
Tim,  
That be me! My first AG Fox pelt, I can now do the official QRP-L dance of  
joy!!!  
It's kinda like the dancing baby video. :-)  
Now I have the taste of Fox blood, watch out. :-)

72, 73  
Dan, N8VZU/AG  
QRP-L #1404

-----  
Date: Tue, 17 Feb 1998 20:11:13 -0700  
From: "Ron Smith" <resmith@primenet.com>  
To: <csnyder@nextdim.com>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [4114] re:QRP-L Number  
Message-ID: <01b401bd3c1a\$e423a740\$2322a5ce@primenet.com.primenet.com>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain;  
charset="iso-8859-1"  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hi Chuck,

> Ron Smith, KD7VD, a while back you gave me some info regarding the  
>qrp-l number. Since I am a "Technician Class" wanna be (hopefully next  
>month), do I have to have a call-sign to get my number? Or, do I have to  
>wait until I pass the No-Code Tech exam and receive my ham license? Any

>comments would be kindly appreciated.

If you go to <http://qrp.cc.nd.edu/QRP-L/clubinfo.html> you will find the section "Membership Information Commands." If you select the line "Get your QRP-L Member Number" you will be e-mailed your QRP-L Membership number.

To the best of my knowledge, the only requirement to join the group is to have an interest in QRP.

Hope that helps Chuck,

72

Ron Smith

-----  
Amateur Radio Callsign: KD7VD  
Boise, Idaho  
E-mail: [resmith@primenet.com](mailto:resmith@primenet.com)  
QRP-L #1291...ARCI #9580...NorCal #????  
AK/QRP #352  
-----

-----  
Date: Tue, 17 Feb 1998 21:12:50 -0600 (CST)  
From: [jdenison@morelr.com](mailto:jdenison@morelr.com) (JOEL DENISON)  
To: [qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU](mailto:qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU)  
Subject: [4115] Thanks, I am confused enough now :-)  
Message-ID: <199802180312.VAA06230@m20.morelr.com>  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

Thanks for the replies to my post

I have enough info to be quite confused at the moment

geezzzz thinks can get a bit inter-twined

hopefully qrp rtty soon :-)

Ps... I won't use 7.040... honest :-)

digitally correct :-)

bye now

joel wa5cvm

God Bless  
Joel

|                     |                                                 |
|---------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| WA5CVM              | Gentlemen don't Cry, They QSY :-)               |
| Joel Denison        | Gentle Lady (RC Sail Plane)(049 engine - start) |
| PO BOX 542          | 80 mtr dipole up 50ft                           |
| Strong, Maine 04983 | QRP ARCI 4066 NEW ENGLAND QRP 476 QRP-L 765     |
| jdenison@morelr.com | AK/QRP 109                                      |

-----  
Date: Wed, 18 Feb 1998 03:51:16 GMT  
From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (Chuck Adams)  
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [4116] FOX the easy way  
Message-ID: <199802180351.DAA02454@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>

Gang,

1. Wait until the crowd goes away, say about 1.5+ hour into the hunt.
2. Hope that the fox is still able to copy you and you him.
3. Call once with your call twice spaced 3 seconds apart at 25wpm
4. He calls you back, slaps you with a 339 and you give him a 559.

Can't be any simpler. And California thinks that I'm not around. :-)  
Power level at 2W just to show that the higher end of QRP is allowed.  
Wire used here, not aluminum. :-)

Chuck Adams K5FO Dallas,TX CP-60  
<http://reality.sgi.com/adams> adams@sgi.com

-----  
Date: Tue, 17 Feb 1998 22:57:56 -0500  
From: Michael Maiorana <mikemo@ibm.net>  
To: qrp-l <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [4117] Floating Verticals and sloppy code.  
Message-ID: <34EA5C44.5029@ibm.net>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Here is an idea that I want to throw out there for evaluation by the antenna gurus. I live in Southwest Florida, in the Tampa area. There are several "causeways" that go across the bay, small strips of land that carry a road with a bridge in the center. This allows you to drive out to the middle of the bay and pull the car over to the side. Aside from the small strip of land behind you, nothing but salt water for 3 miles in any direction. Since saltwater is such a good ground, I was thinking of putting a hamstick vertical on a small float, and letting it out 30' or so into the water. I'll put a ground braid over the side into the water. I'll support the coax with those long foam pool floats (don't know what else to call them) with a slit down the side, so the coax won't sink. Is this worth the effort, or would I be just as good mounting the hamstick to my bumper.

Re: sloppy code. Now, just because I passed my General exam does not mean I'm a CW expert. I still struggle with 13wpm (but I'm improving). Very often I get in a qso with someone who is sending about at my limit, but it seems that they run all the letters and words together. Anyone else notice this, or is it just my poor copy skills. It was so bad with one guy tonight I couldn't even copy 1 word solid.

Regards,

--

72 de kf4trd  
Mike Maiorana  
Palm Harbor, FL

"But first, are you experienced?"

-----

Date: Tue, 17 Feb 1998 23:00:58 -0500  
From: "Wilford D. Lindsey" <70511.3041@compuserve.com>  
To: "INTERNET:cnse97@lmpsilo2.comm.mot.com" <cnse97@lmpsilo2.comm.mot.com>, "Doc W.D. Lindsey/K0EVZ" <70511.3041@compuserve.com>,  
    QRP-L Discussion Group <QRP-L@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [4118] Golden Fox sang at K0EVZ!!  
Message-ID: <199802172302\_MC2-33B6-E2B0@compuserve.com>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Disposition: inline

Bob:

Wow!--what an evening...what with the QRM (some deliberate?) and some light QSB here. But luckily you were most often barreling in here at K0EVZ. Even as late as 0330Z you were 579/589 here :-).

Thanks for digging me out. Thought I had snagged you at 0218, but could not hear your QSL because of the pack. So went back to work and finally got you for \*sure\* at 0300. Please forgive me if I doubled up....but wanted to be certain. Sounded like you were plenty busy!

Setup here = Sierra at .95 watts to dipole up 28' fed with 300-ohm window line. Tuner = the new ZM-2. Rig was battery-powered for lowest noise.

Ya done real good, OM. Hope I can do half as well next Monday (1800CST). BTW, please look for me then. Will likely run a full 5 watts next week--felt more power would have useful tonight among all those \*GIANT\* signals from the pack!

72/73,

--Doc Lindsey/K0EVZ                    Rochester, MN--Home of the Mayo Clinic.  
MWBC  
519-16th Street SE  
Rochester, MN 55904  
507/288-5108 (eves)

-----  
Date: Tue, 17 Feb 1998 23:17:57 -0500  
From: tracy@orlando.com (Tracy)  
To: "QRP-L (E-mail)" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [4119] Amidon Discounts and W2FMI  
Message-ID: <01BD3BFA.BBB36180.tracy@orlando.com>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

This just in --

I have been approved to offer QRP-L members an across-the-board 10% discount on Amidon and ByteMark products. There are a few exceptions, but those items are generally not of amateur interest anyway. The offer is tentatively set to expire on July 17, 1998, but if there is any interest at all I can probably get it made permanent.

In order to get the discount you must reference the discount on any order, and note your QRP-L number. A statement such as "10% discount for QRP-L

#xxxx" will work fine.

By the way, while I'm shamelessly plugging ByteMark, I'd like to let you guys know that Jerry Seveck, W2FMI has contributed an entire section to our site at <http://www.bytemark.com/amidon/content6.htm> (spelled it right this time) on BALUN and UNUN transmission line transformers, complete with construction notes. I've not yet uploaded all the diagrams, and there's still some proofreading to do, but I thought you guys should be the first to know!

We'll be sending press releases to the major mags next month, after we've fixed any errors that may be pointed out. Jerry has also designed a new line of VHF BALUNs that will be released later this year.

Thanks for tolerating this,  
Tracy Markham, N4LGH  
ByteMark / Amidon  
800 679-3184  
#1453

-----  
Date: Tue, 17 Feb 1998 23:16:56 -0500  
From: "Wilford D. Lindsey" <70511.3041@compuserve.com>  
To: QRP-L Discussion Group <QRP-L@Lehigh.EDU>, "Doc W.D. Lindsey/K0EVZ" <70511.3041@compuserve.com>  
Subject: [4120] ATTN: Houston QRP-ers  
Message-ID: <199802172320\_MC2-33B6-E3D5@compuserve.com>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Disposition: inline

Gang:

Planning to be in Houston, TX, this Thursday - Sunday. Would like to hear from any fellow QRPers living on the north side...hopefully close to Intercontinental Airport. Will be staying at the Airport Marriott.

Also, hoping to snag the FOX Thursday night. Any suggestions? WB be bringing the Sierra, Gusher-II, ZM-2, Whiterook MK-88 keyer, etc. Sure would be great to snag the FOX!

Anyway, if you live in/near Houston, please e-mail. I will get right back to you. Thanks in advance.



72/73,

--Doc Lindsey/K0EVZ            Rochester, MN--Home of the Mayo Clinic.  
MWBC  
519-16th Street SE  
Rochester, MN 55904  
507/288-5108 (eves)

-----  
Date: Tue, 17 Feb 1998 20:25:24 -0800 (PST)  
From: Monte Stark <ku7y@sage.dri.edu>  
To: Michael Maiorana <mikemo@ibm.net>  
Cc: QRP-L <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [4121] Re: Floating Verticals and sloppy code.  
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.90.980217201651.18978D-100000@vortex>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

Hi Mike,

It's called getting used to cw!! You may well have learned CW using the Farnsworth method and now you are paying for it! In the real world two things happen....

- 1) People don't send machine code. Some send better than others, but none just right.
- 2) Some people send very poor code. Extra dits, short spacing and etc.

The real skill comes when you just copy them anyway! Takes a long time. Just think of it as understanding someone with a yankee drawl!! :-)

Think of passing the test as getting your learners permit. Now it's time to learn how to drive!! :-)

And don't worry or feel bad about it. We all were there at least once!

Another way to look at it is this: There is nothing you can do to improve the other stations sending. But they might very well have some interesting stories to tell. There is only one thing you have any control over and that's you. So you just struggle to copy poor code along with the good code. Soon you will be enjoying everyone! :-)

Just relax and let it happen!

73, Ron,        SOWP 5545M,

.....KU7Y.....ARCI #8829.....Monte "Ron" Stark.....  
....ku7y@sage.dri.edu.....Washoe Lake, Nevada....  
....QRP-L #17...ARS #49...NorCal #330.....NRA LIFE.....

-----  
Date: Tue, 17 Feb 1998 23:00:52 -0500  
From: "Wilford D. Lindsey" <70511.3041@compuserve.com>  
To: "INTERNET:Shepherd@aol.com" <Shepherd@aol.com>, "Doc W.D. Lindsey/K0EVZ" <70511.3041@compuserve.com>, QRP-L Discussion Group <QRP-L@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [4122] Tnx for N/T+ pelt tonite!  
Message-ID: <199802172303\_MC2-33B6-E2AF@compuserve.com>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Disposition: inline

Dan:

Wow!--you have some great ears there, new /AG! Worked you with my Sierra throttled back to only .95 watts....yet you picked me out FB. Many thanks. And congrats on a great year and the recent upgrade. BTW, heard you snag Bob and old Kenwood just now at 0331Z!

72/73,

--Doc/K0EVZ qrp-l 861 norcal 2050 cqz 414 ARS 311 FISTS 3868 mn-qrp 19  
nj-qrp 69 ak/qrp 139 ar/qrp 73 hi/qrp 30 ARCI 9398 CQC 29305  
ARRL DXCC 143/85 Grid EN34 <>< FOXes 2/18/98 = 31. A 1997/98 FOX.

-----  
Omni V    Corsair I    Yaesu FT-900CAT    Wilderness Sierra SW-40    49er  
Mercury Paddles    Emtech ZM-2    MFJ 259    MFJ 941D    Matchbox    GAP Titan  
TNT/2 Windom    SLV/W6MMA    G5RV    Timewave 599zx    Autek QF-1    RS DSP-40

"Things should be as simple as possible, but no simpler"--A. Einstein

-----  
Date: Tue, 17 Feb 1998 21:46:51 -0700  
From: "Timothy J. Pettibone" <tpettibo@nmsu.edu>  
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU

Cc: jwiley@alaska.net  
Subject: [4123] Help with noise interference  
Message-ID: <3.0.3.32.19980217214651.0069b44c@dante.nmsu.edu>  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

QRPers:

Thought I'd point out a great source of info on tracking down interference/noise. It appeared in the SCRC (South Central Amateur Radio Club - that's in Alaska, not in the SOUTH) February newsletter. I was and still am a member of SCRC. Jim Wiley, KL7CC, is the newsletter editor and personally helped me track down a really bad noise source. Turned out to be a fax machine located next door to me in Anchorage.

Here's the web address of the SCRC Newsletter for February:

<http://www.servcom.com/worcester/feb98.htm>

It's part one of a multipart series. Usually the signal levels of noise are small so there's my OQRPC (obligatory QRP content)!

72/73

Tim K5OI  
Las Cruces, NM

p.s. After all of my complaining about my noise sources, I should shut up and get busy. I suspect that the biggest source of my interference is the headquarters for the Goss Family Victorio Peak Gold Project (or whatever it's called). If you'll recall, F. Lee Bailey represented the project which claimed that there's lots of hidden gold out in the White Sands Missile Range. The headquarters is located in a residential house right behind me and they have lots of electronic equipment. The Army keeps trying to throw them off the range but they keep getting extensions for the search. I'd tell you more but then I'd have to kill you (or they me!)

-----  
Date: Tue, 17 Feb 1998 21:32:01 -0700  
From: gsurrency@juno.com (Gary L Surrency)  
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [4124] QRZ? K5FO, & FOX comments  
Message-ID: <19980217.213201.12014.0.gsurrency@juno.com>

Doug wrote:

>Where was K5F0 for the past 2 weeks?

Ya know, I remember he was building a T-Kit SW receiver. So when he has any free time, he's probably melting solder instead of reading mail! ;-)  
;-)

Wow! Was 40m ever good tonight! It was quiet, signals were good, and I could hear both sides of the Fox hunt very well. What a difference from last night, and all that noise. Never did get Tim, W5FN. But tonight, ol' Bob and Kenwood were S9 here, and doing a very nice job. The hounds sounded like they hadn't been let loose for a looong time, 'cuz there was much yelpin' and barkin' to be heard. Anyway, it was a very easy shot to bag ol' Kenwood. Thanks a bunch for being there tonight, N6WG! :-) :-)

seventy two,

Gary Surrency AB7MY  
S&S TAC-1(40&80m) ARK30 38S OHR100 w/KC-2 HW-9 TS-570D  
QRP-L #571 Chandler, AZ (near Phoenix)Grid Square DM43BH

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Or call Juno at (800) 654-JUNO [654-5866]

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Date: Tue, 17 Feb 1998 23:47:30 EST  
From: k7sz@juno.com  
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU, qrp@qth.net  
Subject: [4125] "Power Station" gel-cells  
Message-ID: <19980218.055124.11879.4.k7sz@juno.com>

A friend of mine gave me a whole bunch of CQ VHF mags the other day. One article that caught my interest was in the May '97 issue, pg 24, called "Turn Your Power Station into a Work Horse".

In this article the author states that the small charger circuit in the Power Station would not keep up with the discharge of the 7 amp/hr gel-cell when using a 30-50 watt VHF/UHF rig. Therefore, the author decided to rewire his Power Station and bypass the charger circuitry altogether and charge the 7 amp/hr gel-cell directly from an external 12 volt source (ie, car battery or cigarette lighter) plugged into the "12

volt input" of the Power Station.

I distinctly remember when building my gel-cell charger from Tejas (K5BDZ) that the charge current had to be limited in order to avoid cooking the gel-cell. Too much charge current would drastically shorten battery life. The figure 1/10th stays in my mind....and, if correct, would mean that maximum charge current for a 7 amp/hr gel-cell is 700 mA. The author of the article states that his charge current is limited by the inline 10 amp fuse to about 2-3 amps! OUCH!

Anybody but me think that this is dangerous? If you didn't manage to blow up the gel-cell you would surely cook it within a few charges to the point of replacement. Maybe I am reading the author's description incorrectly, or possibly I am mistaken about recharging gel-cells.

Can anyone shed some light on this for me? I have wanted to get a couple of Power Stations for FD but have shelved the idea until I can get some definitive information on this gel-cell recharging story.

73 rich K7SZ

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Or call Juno at (800) 654-JUNO [654-5866]

-----  
Date: Tue, 17 Feb 1998 23:07:33 -0600  
From: "George T. Baker" <w5yr@swbell.net>  
To: grudin@pacific.vdbs.com, qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [4126] [Fwd: Radio Shack Freq Counter - Help Please]  
Message-ID: <34EA6C95.F7776C6F@swbell.net>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: multipart/mixed; boundary="-----22E38D562E383E5D0363C750"

This is a multi-part message in MIME format.  
-----22E38D562E383E5D0363C750  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

-----22E38D562E383E5D0363C750  
Content-Type: message/rfc822  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit  
Content-Disposition: inline

Message-ID: <34EA3166.6E1EFF18@swbell.net>  
Date: Tue, 17 Feb 1998 18:55:02 -0600  
From: "George T. Baker" <w5yr@swbell.net>  
Reply-To: w5yr@swbell.net  
Organization: AutoPower Systems  
X-Mozilla-Draft-Info: internal/draft; vcard=0; receipt=0; uuencode=0; html=0; linewidth=0  
X-Mailer: Mozilla 4.02 [en]C-DIAL (Win95; U)  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
To: grudin@pacific.vdbs.com  
CC: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: Re: Radio Shack Freq Counter - Help Please  
References: <34E9BDA4.274A@vdbs.com>  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Some counters will oscillate at various frequencies if the input is not terminated. Sounds like normal operation for an inexpensive counter.

--

73, George  
Amateur Radio W5YR  
QRP-L #1373  
QRP ARCI #9583  
AutoPOWER Systems  
Fairview, TX

-----22E38D562E383E5D0363C750--

-----

Date: Wed, 18 Feb 1998 00:12:13 -0800  
From: Multi-Voltti Devices <multi-voltti@softhouse.com>  
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [4127] FS: HWA-9 Bandpack accessory kit  
Message-ID: <34EA97DD.644D4A20@softhouse.com>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hello:

I have a bunch of unopened HWA-9 Bandpack accessory parts kits for HW-9's that do not yet have the additional WARC (+ 10m) band components (10, 12, 17, 30 m bottom 250 kHz added). Some soldering required! (in

case it wasn't obvious)

\$43 delivered via Priority Mail

Murray  
Multi-Volti Devices  
multi-volti@softhouse.com

-----  
Date: Wed, 18 Feb 1998 05:15:03 GMT  
From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (Chuck Adams)  
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [4128] RF Probe Questions -- Elmer101  
Message-ID: <199802180515.FAA02644@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>

Gang,

As we are in the process of Elmering a new group from the beginning principles, let me throw out yet another schematic and then ask some questions. :-)

Here is an ASCII rendition of another RF probe:

```
hot                Diode
<----->|-----+-----> + to meter
                |
                ---
To 50 ohm        --- Capacitor
dummy load       |
<----->+-----> - to meter
ground side
```

1. Should diode be Germanium type like a 1N34A?
2. What happens if you use Si type like a 1N4001 or 1N4002?  
How about a Schottky or PIN diode?

3. Experiment with different values for the cap, say 0.01uF, 0.1uF, 0.47uF, 1uF, and 10uF. What happens? Electrolytic or disc make a difference?
4. Say meter is a VOM with internal resistance on the order of 20K ohms per Volt. What happens?
5. Say meter is a DVM with an internal resistance on the order of 10Meg ohms or 20Meg ohms. What happens?
6. Why all the fuss over shielding?
7. Can you do all the math to show why you get what you get?
8. Why will previous diagram as posted to the group cause the loss of a greater number of diodes when used? Similar to the one used in ARRL handbook page 26.11 in newer editions. Someone mentioned that they personally had lost a number of 1N34A's and was wanting to avoid the problem. Think they were using the other circuit?
9. What if the source voltage is DC? What will be the initial current be if the cap is uncharged at the start and the voltage applied?
10. What will varying the frequency of the RF do with a constant peak voltage across the load? How about the waveform?

Those of you who have previously purchased a SWL kit from NN1G have a 1N34A at your disposal if you haven't lost it.

May I please ask that everyone hold off on posting what they think the answers are. Some of these questions are not as simple as they seem. You have to be very very careful or you will get yourself into hot water in a hurry and in front of 3,000+ individuals. Give the crowd a chance to think and work on this one. I will post the answers on my web page with the graphs on Monday of next week. I have done my homework and I went to the lab too. And that is the way to check theory with real world RF. :-) And most likely you will lose a diode or two doing this. Remember education can be expensive. ;-) 1N34's are not cheap nor are they readily available to everyone.

For those without web access I'll convert to ASCII and email separate. I'll let you do the graphs. Wait until Monday please. That way I can do it all at once and reduce my overhead. Will also have the information on the ftp site to make it easy for some with PostScript printing capability.

This exercise will give you something to do while waiting for the next fox to pop up on a week night. ;-)

If you can find it, read Roy Lewallen's (W7EL) article in Feb 1990 QST on the wattmeter and his diode measurements. You can find it in the ARRL's "QRP Classics" book also.



FYI

Chuck Adams K5FO Dallas,TX CP-60  
<http://reality.sgi.com/adams> adams@sgi.com

-----  
Date: Tue, 17 Feb 1998 23:59:05 -0600  
From: Tellefsen Bob-CNSE97 <cnse97@lmpsil02.comm.mot.com>  
To: QRP-L list <QRP-L@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [4129] Fox Report N6WG (L0000NG)  
Message-ID: <351A2DFAE256D111883A0060B06B1662324FF6@s-il02-j.comm.mot.com>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain;  
charset="iso-8859-1"

Whooee, talk about your adrenaline highs. That was far and away my best outing as a fox. The hunt is definitely more popular than in past years. The number of hunters in there was generating straight white noise at times. I actually couldn't make out a single call for moments at a time. Had to RIT out to the edges of the pack to nip off those calls

I could make out. Had really decent conditions for a change, too.

Chuck, K5FO, once mentioned the recognition factor. There are some calls that are so familiar you can just pick them out of the noise. And there are others we struggle with. For those of you just entering the fray, keep at it. Before long your calls will be familiar too, and we'll be pulling you out of the noise just like the other almost-signals.

My apologies for Maestro NorCal Paddle. He seems to have picked up a case of intermittent contacts. I'm afraid the Ol' Golden Fox must have sounded a bit tipsy at times. :-)) I'll try replacing his steel contact screws with brass before his next outing.

Anyway, enough of this. Cut to the chase. You just want to see if you're in the log, right?

| NR  | TIME CALL  | HIS | MINE | ST | NAME   |     |
|-----|------------|-----|------|----|--------|-----|
| NR  |            |     |      |    |        |     |
| 1   | 0200 N6MM  | 559 | 579  | CA | HARVEY | 318 |
| 2   | 0202 W6ZH  | 559 | 599  | CA | PETE   |     |
| 257 |            |     |      |    |        |     |
| 3   | 0203 KU7Y  | 579 | 579  | NV | RON    |     |
| 17  |            |     |      |    |        |     |
| 4   | 0204 K2VC0 | 559 | 599  | CA | VIC    | 725 |
| 5   | 0204 WE6W  | 559 | 599  | CA | ED     |     |

|      |               |     |     |       |        |      |     |
|------|---------------|-----|-----|-------|--------|------|-----|
| 1068 |               |     |     |       |        |      |     |
| 6    | 0206 NQ7X     | 559 | 559 | AZ    | FLOYD  | 343  |     |
| 7    | 0207 K50I     | 559 | 559 | NM    | TIM    |      |     |
| 73   |               |     |     |       |        |      |     |
| 8    | 0208 N7IR     | 579 | 569 | AZ    | GARY   |      |     |
| 1330 |               |     |     |       |        |      |     |
| 9    | 0209 AB7TT    | 559 | 559 | AZ    | JOE    | 191  |     |
| 10   | 0211 N5LU     | 549 | 579 | OK    | BILL   |      |     |
| 5W   |               |     |     |       |        |      |     |
| 11   | 0212 W0RW 579 | 579 | C0  | PAUL  | 2W     |      |     |
| 12   | 0213 N7KT     | 559 | 579 | AZ    | ROGER  | 62   |     |
| 13   | 0215 W5SU     | 559 | 599 | CA    | JOHN   |      |     |
| 48   |               |     |     |       |        |      |     |
| 14   | 0216 KI7MN    | 569 | 559 | AZ    | BOB    | 271  |     |
| 15   | 0217 N6VZ     | 559 | 579 | CA    | GARY   |      |     |
| 919  |               |     |     |       |        |      |     |
| 16   | 0218 N5JI     | 559 | 559 | TX    | DICK   |      |     |
| 1054 |               |     |     |       |        |      |     |
| 17   | 0220 W5SB     | 559 | 559 | TX    | BILL   |      |     |
| 1279 |               |     |     |       |        |      |     |
| 18   | 0222 N7XJW    | 579 | 559 | AZ    | BERTIE | 1259 |     |
| 19   | 0223 AB7MY    | 559 | 599 | AZ    | GARY   | 571  |     |
| 20   | 0224 K10J     | 559 | 559 | TX    | OJ     |      |     |
| 732  |               |     |     |       |        |      |     |
| 21   | 0225 KN6YD    | 559 | 599 | CA    | JEFF   | 5W   |     |
| 22   | 0228 AB5UA    | 559 | 559 | OK    | CLIFF  |      | 478 |
| 23   | 0229 AA6R     | 559 | 559 | CA    | GARY   |      |     |
| 406  |               |     |     |       |        |      |     |
| 24   | 0230 W5FN     | 559 | 569 | TX    | TIM    |      |     |
| 586  |               |     |     |       |        |      |     |
| 25   | 0231 KA5T     | 559 | 559 | TX    | LARRY  | 89   |     |
| 26   | 0233 K50N     | 559 | 599 | NM    | GARY   |      |     |
| 770  |               |     |     |       |        |      |     |
| 27   | 0235 K5JHP    |     | 559 | 539   | TX     | BILL |     |
| 825  |               |     |     |       |        |      |     |
| 28   | 0237 K5ZTY    | 539 | 449 | TX    | BILL   | 473  |     |
| 29   | 0238 KF6CTA   | 559 | 559 | CA    | DICK   | 952  |     |
| 30   | 0239 WW7Y 559 | 559 | UT  | STEVE | 94     |      |     |
| 31   | 0240 W7SSM    | 559 | 559 | CA    | JOHN   | 1048 |     |
| 32   | 0241 N5TW     | 559 | 559 | TX    | TOM    |      |     |
| 2W   |               |     |     |       |        |      |     |
| 33   | 0242 W00Q     | 559 | 579 | C0    | MARTY  | 793  |     |
| 34   | 0244 WA6NAE   | 559 | 599 | CA    | DWIGHT | 2W   |     |
| 35   | 0246 AA9L     | 339 | 449 | WI    | RICH   |      |     |
| 1355 |               |     |     |       |        |      |     |
| 36   | 0247 KJ3VV    | 339 | 559 | AL    | LYNN   | 1227 |     |
| 37   | 0249 K5ID     | 559 | 569 | AR    | KEN    |      |     |
| 652  |               |     |     |       |        |      |     |

|      |                                                                        |     |     |     |        |      |
|------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|--------|------|
| 38   | 0250 AB7TK                                                             | 559 | 559 | ID  | RANDY  | 102  |
| 39   | 0252 W6SIY                                                             | 579 | 599 | CA  | KEITH  | 675  |
| 40   | 0254 VE5RC                                                             | 539 | 229 | SK  | BRUCE  | 886  |
| 41   | 0256 N7GS                                                              | 559 | 559 | MT  | MAL    |      |
| 815  |                                                                        |     |     |     |        |      |
| 42   | 0257 W0CH                                                              | 559 | 559 | MO  | DAVE   |      |
| 618  |                                                                        |     |     |     |        |      |
| 43   | 0259 K0EVZ                                                             | 559 | 559 | MN  | DOC    | 861  |
| 44   | 0301 K1MG                                                              | 529 | 579 | CA  | MIKE   |      |
| 614  |                                                                        |     |     |     |        |      |
| 45   | 0302 W9UQB                                                             | 559 | 559 | AZ  | MIKE   | 413  |
| 46   | 0304 AK1P                                                              | 529 | 539 | CA  | PAUL   |      |
| 284  |                                                                        |     |     |     |        |      |
| 47   | 0306 NQ7K                                                              | 559 | 559 | AZ  | MIKE   |      |
| 47   |                                                                        |     |     |     |        |      |
| 48   | 0308 N4ROA                                                             | 559 | 449 | VA  | DAN    | 971  |
| 49   | 0309 WA8GHZ                                                            | 559 | 559 | TX  | JACK   | 619  |
| 50   | 0311 AB0GO                                                             | 559 | 559 | CO  | DAVE   | 785  |
| 51   | 0312 WA9PWP                                                            | 339 | 449 | WI  | PAUL   | 127  |
| 52   | 0314 N1TP                                                              | 339 | 549 | FL  | TOM    |      |
| 1316 |                                                                        |     |     |     |        |      |
| 53   | 0317 W5HNS                                                             | 339 | 549 | TX  | HENRY  | 178  |
| 54   | 0319 WB0T                                                              | 559 | 559 | IA  | JERRY  | 1268 |
| 55   | 0320 W03B                                                              | 559 | 559 | CA  | BOB    |      |
| 195  |                                                                        |     |     |     |        |      |
| 56   | 0322 WD4MSM                                                            | 229 | 339 | ??  | HARRY  | 532  |
|      | (Sorry, Harry, I never was able to copy your state)                    |     |     |     |        |      |
| 57   | 0326 K5UP                                                              | 339 | 559 | OK  | GLEN   |      |
| 21   |                                                                        |     |     |     |        |      |
| 58   | 0328 N7VE                                                              | 339 | 559 | AZ  | DAN    |      |
| 696  |                                                                        |     |     |     |        |      |
| 59   | 0330 N8VZU/AG                                                          | 229 | 229 | OH  | DAN    |      |
| ??   |                                                                        |     |     |     |        |      |
|      | (Sorry, Dan, really wanted to pull you through, but just too marginal) |     |     |     |        |      |
| 60   | 0334 K0SU                                                              | 339 | 559 | CO  | RICK   |      |
| 539  |                                                                        |     |     |     |        |      |
| 61   | 0338 WB4EXW                                                            | 339 | 339 | NC  | WATSON | 5W   |
| 62   | 0339 K5FO                                                              | 339 | 559 | TX  | CHUCK  | 1    |
| 63   | 0340 KQ5U                                                              | 539 | 559 | TX  | TERRY  | 5W   |
| 64   | 0342 W5USJ                                                             | 539 | 559 | TX  | CHUCK  | 1306 |
| 65   | 0345 AC5JH                                                             |     | 339 | 339 | LA     | TOM  |
| 1319 |                                                                        |     |     |     |        |      |
| 66   | 0348 W0RSP                                                             | 339 | 449 | SD  | ADE    | 4W   |
|      | (Good to hear you in there, Ade)                                       |     |     |     |        |      |
| 67   | 0349 AA5TA                                                             | 559 | 559 | TX  | LARRY  | 1245 |
| 68   | 0353 VE7CQK                                                            | 229 | 339 | BC  | PAUL   | 20   |
| 69   | 0358 VE6EWM                                                            | 229 | 339 | AB  | BILL   | 1076 |

At 0400 UTC, the curtain came down after a standing-room-only performance. As the curtain descended, the Golden Fox exited stage left and disappeared down his fox hole. In moments, the magnificent 40 Meter Playhouse began to fade, and the audience slowly walked away. Nothing was left but a ghostly CQ FOX echoing across the plain.

Never fear, though. With another turn of the moon, the 40 Meter Playhouse will reappear on this very site, and the Golden Fox will once again tread boldly across the stage. Once more he will raise his voice in purest song, CQ FOX DE N6WG, and the audience will return once more to be beguiled.

Leave your receivers on at night, and when you hear that call, come running. The 40 Meter Playhouse will be open for just a little while. Be there.

Thanks, everyone, and 72,  
Bob N6WG and 01' Kenwood

-----  
Date: Tue, 17 Feb 1998 22:23:46 -0800  
From: Jerry Parker <jparker@fix.net>  
To: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [4130] 49'er and St. Louis Tuner Boards  
Message-ID: <2.2.32.19980218062346.00c9abac@fix.net>  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

GREAT NEWS!

Fred at FAR Circuits has 49'er and St. Louis Tuner Boards!

The 49er circuit boards are \$4.00 each and St Louis Tuner board will be \$4.50 each. The shipping will be \$1.50 per order for US.

Check out Freds web page for many other circuit boards.

<http://www.cl.ais.net/farcir/> for details.

Order from:  
FAR Circuits  
18N640 Field Court

Dundee, IL  
60118

Enjoy,,,72,,,Jerry...WA6OWR...K

-----  
Date: Wed, 18 Feb 1998 00:20:15 -0600 (CST)  
From: Adrian Weiss <aweiss@sunflowr.usd.edu>  
To: QRP-L@fidoii.CC.lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [4131] RE: QQ Address Error -- JOY OF QRP  
Message-ID: <Pine.SOL.3.94.980218001153.27702C-100000@sunburst>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

I keep forgetting to mention that the fantastic comments about JOY OF QRP in the latest QRP Quarterly ( tnx Mike and Bruce!!!) ended in the "5" being omitted from my QTH -- one order made it thru anyhow. So, the real address:

Ade Weiss  
526 N. Dakota St.  
Vermillion, SD 57069

The local postmaster has a thing out for people who have lived here for 29 years and don't send change of addresses to all correspondents! Then just today they returned a QSL for extra postage -- with the big yellow "return to Sender" sticker right over the address of K3WWP -- and the card didn't have his call on it!!! Oh well... Incidentally, fantastic QQ !!!

72, Ade.

Also, do all QRP'rs go to bed at sunset except on FOX nights? Tonight is just about the first time I've been sitting here at the computer reading the mail and monitoring 7040 that I've heard some QRP activity. It's only 2230 on the west coast. I guess that's why W7LMZ and AB7CE just popped up and are in QSO. Both perfectly readable here. Just wondering...

-----  
Date: Tue, 17 Feb 1998 22:49:23 -0700  
From: Kory Hamzeh <kory@avatar.com>  
To: mikemo@ibm.net, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [4132] Re: Floating Verticals and sloppy code.  
Message-ID: <3.0.5.32.19980217224923.00a68100@ns1.avatar.com>  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

At 10:57 PM 2/17/98 -0500, Michael Maiorana wrote:

>  
>Re: sloppy code. Now, just because I passed my General exam does not  
>mean I'm a CW expert. I still struggle with 13wpm (but I'm improving).  
>Very often I get in a qso with someone who is sending about at my limit,  
>but it seems that they run all the letters and words together. Anyone  
>else notice this, or is it just my poor copy skills. It was so bad with  
>one guy tonight I couldn't even copy 1 word solid.  
>

Yes, I find this very annoying. There a lot of people out there with really bad form. Its way to frustrating to figure out what is being sent!

Kory  
AC6RN

-----  
Date: Tue, 17 Feb 1998 18:41:55 +0000  
From: Leon Heller <leon@lfheller.demon.co.uk>  
To: aplitech@spacestar.net  
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [4133] Re: rf probe  
Message-ID: <2YHpGIAznd60EwPz@lfheller.demon.co.uk>  
MIME-Version: 1.0

In message <058301bd3bca\$58a9d680\$accebfce@groucho>, Claton Cadmus <aplitech@spacestar.net> writes  
>It has been pointed out that a 1N4007 is a very poor choice for an rf probe.  
>So if anyone was going to use one please don't. 1N914, 1N4148 have been  
>offered as reasonable choice to get higher reverse voltage. I should have  
>used one of those and intend to change it. A 1N4148 has a reverse voltage of  
>100  
>and should be good up to about 20 watts or so across a 50 ohm load. Any  
>thoughts on better diodes choices or probe circuits that handle higher power?

Putting two or more diodes in series is the usual solution.

73, Leon

--

Leon Heller: leon@lfheller.demon.co.uk <http://www.lfheller.demon.co.uk>  
Amateur Radio Callsign G1HSM Tel: +44 (0) 118 947 1424  
See <http://www.lfheller.demon.co.uk/dds.htm> for details of my AD9850  
DDS system. See " /diy\_dsp.htm for a simple DIY DSP ADSP-2104 system.

-----  
Date: Wed, 18 Feb 1998 06:46:36 -0800  
From: "Harvey D. D. Hetland" <n6mm@earthlink.net>  
To: QRP-L@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [4134] Re: Help with noise interference  
Message-ID: <34EAF44C.4013@earthlink.net>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

In almost 38 years of amateur radio I have done my share of tracking noise sources, but I am still learning. Tim, K5OI's reference an excellent article in the SCRC Newsletter for February (<http://www.servcom.com/worcester/feb98.htm>) caught my attention, because I spent the about 90 minutes tonight (after working the N6WG fox) tracking a 160m interference source that is about 2 to 3 kHz wide and wanders in frequency between 1.820 and 1.833 kHz effectively covering the DX portion of 160m on weekdays (it is off over weekends). The article provides an excellent summary of techniques. Noise sources are continually changing as new electrical and electronic technologies invade our homes, so I am always making mental notes as to sources of noise when they are mentioned on the list or in print. The newsletter is 21 pages. If you wish to print out the interference article it is on pages 12 through 19. There is also a very interesting article noting the origination of the DXpedition including the phase "DXpedition".

QRPers are well equipped to track noise. A battery operated receiver and a simple loop are very useful tools. I particularly like the Sierra for this function (small size, good battery life, adjustable IF bandwidth and multi-band ability). However, 160m is proving more of a challenge and I am going to fabricate a loop specifically for 160m. This noise appears to be strongest on cable television and telephone drop lines. Three years ago I traced one interference source to a multiplex system used by the telephone company to place two telephone lines on a single two conductor drop line. The apparent carrier was in the 160m DX window with sidebands and harmonics as high as 20 MHz. Fortunately the telephone company was very cooperative once I

demonstrated the interference to a knowledgeable service technician who found an available pair and eliminated the multiplex system.

73, Harvey, N6MM

(Hoping the blasted 160m interference will not be on 9M0C in the morning ... the only band on which I have not worked them. Got'em with QRP on 40m, 20m and 15m. If you hear C91LCK on call him. He has very good ears!)

-----  
Date: Tue, 17 Feb 1998 22:58:50 -0800  
From: "Robert D. Brown" <bogateer@vegasnet.net>  
To: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [4135] 2M or 6M QRP  
Message-ID: <3.0.1.16.19980217225850.2bcf0934@pop.vegasnet.net>  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

Along this line- anyone have any suggestions/recommendations for inexpensive 6m and/or 2m rigs (if the two aren't mutually exclusive)? I was eyeballing the MFJ 6m rig...attractive price but is it worth the \$250? How about the used market? What's worth looking for and what are the expected prices?

Thanks,

Rob WB2DVX

-----  
Date: Wed, 18 Feb 1998 00:07:29 -0800  
From: Tom Upton <stjohn@ocsnet.net>  
To: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [4136] RS 22-305  
Message-ID: <19980218080728843.AAA226@Default>  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

I have a RS 22-305 Frequency Counter that I picked up this last year. Put batteries in it once.

Would gladly sell it for \$50.00 shipping included.



-----  
Date: Wed, 18 Feb 1998 00:12:52 -0800  
From: Conrad <radman@best.com>  
To: "'qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU'" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [4137] RE: RS Freq Counter - Help Please  
Message-ID: <01BD3C01.F4D9F300@radman.vip.best.com>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable

With it connected to nothing, and no transmitted signal, it reads ~50MHz in the <50 position and ~175 in the >50 position. It has done this in three different houses in two different cities. My Kenwood freq counter reads zero under the same circumstance. Is there some explanation for this?

\*\*\*\*\*

>> Yep, I'd say self-oscillation. Typical of the #22-305 in my =  
experience. But, look at the bright side... RS did a really good design =  
job on the digital filtering and gate speeds in this economy counter... =  
mine shows practically no "jitter" or "rattle" when counting a "real =  
signal."! =20

72 -- Conrad -- nn6cw.

-----  
Date: Wed, 18 Feb 1998 02:06:59 -0800  
From: Gardner / Maguire <bagardn@ibm.net>  
To: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [4138] New Impedance (and RF-1) related software (with plotting)  
Message-ID: <34EAB2C3.1707@ibm.net>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hi Gang,  
With the kind help of the webmaster (Thanks Jerry!) I've just updated the "Software" section of the NorCal web site. Some of the programs are new, some are major revisions, and some have been around for a while. Some are specific to the Autek RF-1 and some are general in nature. Here's an extract from the README file:

RF1CHAR.BAS

Walks you through the steps necessary to use the Autek RF-1 to determine the characteristics of a transmission line (velocity factor, characteristic impedance, dB loss values). If you want to "test drive" this program see the sample input data contained in file RF1CHAR.TXT.

#### RF1RX.BAS

Converts SWR and Z readings made with the Autek RF-1 to R and jX values. Includes an error range of 10% (or 20%, depending on value) for SWR and 3% for Z, plus some hints on determining the sign of X.

#### ZIZL.BAS

Transforms R and jX values from one end of a transmission line to the other end, for a variety of real world lines. Works in either direction, input to load (shack to antenna) or load to input (antenna to shack). Also shows SWR, power, current, voltage, and dB loss numbers. Lets you easily play "what if" games with the values. Can show a continuous range of values along the line, either in tabular or plot format.

>>>>>>>>>

For those folks who might have gotten a copy of ZIZL from me in the past few months, please note that the program has now been revised to allow you to plot R and jX (or Z and Z phase; or I and E) versus line length. LB Cebik made mention of plots like this in a post a while ago, noting that if you have a particularly inopportune combination of load (antenna) impedance, line  $Z_0$ , and line length, then your tuner might have to cope with radical changes in line impedance when the electrical length/velocity factor of the line changes slightly with dirt, moisture, etc. This new plotting function allows you to see what's happening along the line much more readily than the previous (but still available) method of tabular format data.

<<<<<<<<<<

#### ZMATH.BAS

Does math functions on impedance values. (Also works on complex numbers in general, remembering that  $A+Bi$  is equivalent to  $R+jX$ .) Data may be entered in any of five forms:  $R+jX$ ; Z and angle; parallel  $R_p$  and  $X_p$ ; capacitance (pF) and frequency; or inductance (uH) and frequency. Results are displayed in all forms. Functions include add, subtract, multiply, divide, square, square root, combine in parallel, remove in parallel, plus store/recall memory. (The "combine" function might be used to see what the result is of joining two lines going to two different antennas in a phased array. The "remove" function might be used to see what happens if a small amount of stray capacitance is removed from a measured impedance to get the "real" value. Both functions might be used

(along with series add and subtract) to study the impedance transforms that happen in a typical C-L-C tuner from one side to the other.) Results are chained like a pocket calculator, in that the result from a previous action is used as the starting value for the next action.

>>>>>>>>>

This one might be of use to the Elmer 101 folks. Doing series to parallel back to series form impedance transforms using a calculator and scratch paper just once makes you want to find a quicker way! This might be what you're looking for, assuming you don't have the equations coded up in a spreadsheet type program already.

<<<<<<<<<<

The package also has some other minor utility programs (Velocity factor equation, SWR calculations, low pass L network component values) plus some user documentation files.

Available for download at

<http://www.fix.net/~jparkner/norcal/software/software.htm>

If you don't have web access drop me a note and I'll reply with a zip file email attachment of about 48K in size.

Dan AC6LA  
In soggy NorCal land.

-----

Date: Wed, 18 Feb 1998 10:29:23 -0400  
From: Bill Meara <wmeara@erols.com>  
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [4139] RF probe tip  
Message-ID: <199802181030.FAA25498@smtp2.erols.com>  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

Well, not so much the tip as the case! I needed to put together an RF probe (quickly) so I could measure the voltage going from my local oscillator into the 602 chip in my Direct Conversion receiver's front end. I used the familiar cap-diode-resistor circuit described in the ARRL handbook and other posts.

I used a discarded probe from an old VOM, along with a 5 inch piece of of PVC tube and some duct tape to put the probe together. I mounted the cap, diode and resistor on a small PC board. I attached the board to the VOM

probe and put the whole assembly inside the PVC tube. A length of coax went out the back, a short length of wire with an alligator clip went out the front. A couple of lengths of duct tape holds the whole thing together. It works very well with an old Heath VTVM.

There are, I'm sure, better ways to do this. The handbook talks of using an old metal tube shield as the case for the device. But for those of us with less than fantastic metal working skills, PVC and duct tape may be the way to go!

73 de N2CQR  
Bill Meara, Falls Church, Virginia  
wmeara@erols.com G-QRP #7965  
<http://www.mindspring.com/~johnmb/billm.htm>

-----  
Date: Wed, 18 Feb 1998 08:27:32 -0500  
From: Richard Powell <ripowell@mpna.com>  
To: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [4140] Re: Important Dayton Info  
Message-ID: <1.5.4.32.19980218132732.0069d998@smtp.mpna.com>  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

What about the convention in Cincinnati on Feb 21/22 ??????  
That's what I have been preparing for!

ALSO!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Major News!!!!!!

I am now at over 100AH (ok, 103.5) of 12vdc battery power!!!!

Lets see, anyone up for a 5 day field day????

73  
/rick

At 03:25 PM 2/17/98 -0800, ki6ds@dpol.k12.ca.us wrote:  
>Alllllllright. We have discussed and cussed a number of subjects lately,  
>but now it is time to get down to the real nitty gritty. What was the  
>weather in Dayton like today? What will it be like in May during the  
>Hamvention???? Inquiring minds, (me) want to know. Hey, we almost had a  
>Q-Dope thread going. I did just build a Herring Aid 5 receiver and it has  
>4 toroids that need to be held down. Any suggestions? Where has Nils

>been???? What about baab? Some of you guys have reverted back to being  
>lurkers in the weeds, and you better be careful or the badgers will get  
>you. On a more serious note, nahhh, heck with it, this is QRP and this is  
>a hobby, it is supposed to be FUN, the Arizona ScQRPions have it right, if  
>you ain't havin' fun, you are doing something wrong. Now, how do I HTML  
>this????? What's the next QRP contest? Is it the Colorado Test? When  
>will Jeff Gold post another rig for sale? Did anybody really FTB0 in the  
>FYB0 contest? Where was K5F0 for the past 2 weeks? He said he was coming  
>to California, but no one that I know of saw him??? Has he a new event up  
>his sleeve? Did anyone work K5F0 the last 2 weeks??? Who won the FYB0  
>contest? Who took last place? What was the highest operating temperature  
>anyone copied? I got a 77 from one guy. Have a good day. 72, Doug, KI6DS  
>  
>  
>  
>

Richard Powell WB6JBM TENTEN - 13044  
Director of Network Services, JDR Consulting Services, LTD.  
ripowell@mpna.com <http://www.mpna.com/ripowell>  
ripowell@jdrconsulting.com <http://www.jdrconsulting.com>

-----  
Date: Wed, 18 Feb 1998 08:29:09 -0500  
From: Richard Powell <ripowell@mpna.com>  
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [4141] Re: Important Dayton Info  
Message-ID: <1.5.4.32.19980218132909.00690518@smtp.mpna.com>  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

At 03:25 PM 2/17/98 -0800, ki6ds@dpol.k12.ca.us wrote:  
> Did anybody really FTB0 in the  
>FYB0 contest?

YES, I did. except my hands, they were warm. at least during the contest.  
73  
/rick

Richard Powell WB6JBM TENTEN - 13044  
Director of Network Services, JDR Consulting Services, LTD.  
ripowell@mpna.com <http://www.mpna.com/ripowell>  
ripowell@jdrconsulting.com <http://www.jdrconsulting.com>

-----  
Date: Wed, 18 Feb 1998 14:15:36 +0200  
From: Arjen Raateland <Arjen.Raateland@vyh.fi>  
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [4142] QRP-L password?  
Message-ID: <34EAD0E8.46AB@vyh.fi>  
MIME-version: 1.0  
Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

I'm stumped. I requested and read the help files of the listserver until I found how to retrieve my QRP-L number (worth 10% discount in selected businesses ...).

But the computer wants a password! I wish I had written down the number at the time. I'm sure many of you have a clue how to do this right. Of course I could try passwords like ditdit etc, but the discount offer might run out before I happen on the right password.

I sent the command:  
run qrp-l getnr  
and this is what the listserver says:

>RUN QRP-L XXXXX

Missing command to run for RUN request

Syntax: run <list> [<password> <cmd> [args]]

tnx es 73, oh2zaz

--

Arjen Raateland  
Finnish Environment Institute  
SAS Support  
phone +358 9 4030 0457

-----  
Date: Wed, 18 Feb 1998 08:51:51 -0500 (EST)  
From: "Scott Rosenfeld [NF3I]" <ham@w3eax.umd.edu>  
To: "Robert D. Brown" <bogateer@vegasnet.net>  
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [4143] 6m QRP  
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.3.95.980218085018.22624M-100000@w3eax.umd.edu>  
MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

Step 1 - get a 20m rig, preferably a QRP rig.

Step 2 - build a Ten-Tec 1208 20-to-6m transverter. \$95.

Then you're on BOTH 20 and 6 meters - and the 1208 is extremely "hot" as far as RX goes, IMHO.

\* Scott Rosenfeld NF3I Burtonsville, MD FM19mc QRV 80-10/6/2/440 \*  
\* 6m 82 grids on 8w \* DXCC WAS WAC \* QRP-L #147 \* QRP ARCI #9054 \*  
\* <http://w3eax.umd.edu/~ham> \* ARRL Life Member /Laurel ARC/UMARA \*  
\*\*\* 301-549-1022 h 301-982-1015 w \*\*\* 35 wpm HF mobile CW Neon \*\*\*

On Tue, 17 Feb 1998, Robert D. Brown wrote:

> Along this line- anyone have any suggestions/recommendations for  
> inexpensive 6m and/or 2m rigs (if the two aren't mutually exclusive)? I  
> was eyeballing the MFJ 6m rig...attractive price but is it worth the \$250?  
> How about the used market? What's worth looking for and what are the  
> expected prices?  
>  
> Thanks,  
>  
> Rob WB2DVX  
>

-----  
Date: Wed, 18 Feb 1998 08:55:19 -0500 (EST)  
From: "Scott Rosenfeld [NF3I]" <ham@w3eax.umd.edu>  
To: Bill Meara <wmeara@erols.com>  
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [4144] RF probes  
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.3.95.980218085303.22624N-1000000@w3eax.umd.edu>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

Personally, my favorite RF probe is an oscilloscope :)

Well, OK, there's not always one laying around. Last night, in trying to debug a non-transmitting OHR 100A, I was reminded of my favorite "RF sniffer," AKA an unterminated piece of coax hooked to a receiver.

Sure, you don't get power levels per se, but for determining where the link is broken, it works.

\* Scott Rosenfeld NF3I Burtonsville, MD FM19mc QRV 80-10/6/2/440 \*  
\* 6m 82 grids on 8w \* DXCC WAS WAC \* QRP-L #147 \* QRP ARCI #9054 \*  
\* <http://w3eax.umd.edu/~ham> \* ARRL Life Member /Laurel ARC/UMARA \*  
\*\*\* 301-549-1022 h 301-982-1015 w \*\*\* 35 wpm HF mobile CW Neon \*\*\*

On Wed, 18 Feb 1998, Bill Meara wrote:

> Well, not so much the tip as the case! I needed to put together an RF probe  
> (quickly) so I could measure the voltage going from my local oscillator into  
> the 602 chip in my Direct Conversion receiver's front end. I used the  
> familiar cap-diode-resistor circuit described in the ARRL handbook and other  
> posts.

>  
> I used a discarded probe from an old VOM, along with a 5 inch piece of of  
> PVC tube and some duct tape to put the probe together. I mounted the cap,  
> diode and resistor on a small PC board. I attached the board to the VOM  
> probe and put the whole assembly inside the PVC tube. A length of coax  
> went out the back, a short length of wire with an alligator clip went out  
> the front. A couple of lengths of duct tape holds the whole thing together.  
> It works very well with an old Heath VTVM.

>  
> There are, I'm sure, better ways to do this. The handbook talks of using an  
> old metal tube shield as the case for the device. But for those of us with  
> less than fantastic metal working skills, PVC and duct tape may be the way  
> to go!

>  
> 73 de N2CQR  
> Bill Meara, Falls Church, Virginia  
> [wmeara@erols.com](mailto:wmeara@erols.com) G-QRP #7965  
> <http://www.mindspring.com/~johnmb/billm.htm>  
>  
>

-----  
Date: Wed, 18 Feb 1998 08:00:17 -0800  
From: LYN WILLIAMS <[designserv@ipass.net](mailto:designserv@ipass.net)>  
To: [k7sz@juno.com](mailto:k7sz@juno.com)  
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <[qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU](mailto:qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU)>  
Subject: [4145] Re: "Power Station" gel-cells  
Message-ID: <34EB0591.7FBBFD2A@ipass.net>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Rich,



The battery manufacturer's recommendations are the controlling factor, here. In the absence of any more information, I would recommend charging currents between 10-15% of the AH capacity. What IS critical is the voltage. Lead-acid batteries generate gas as part of their normal operation, but have mechanisms to deal with recombining the gasses up to a certain point. They gas heavily when the charging voltage reaches 2.37 volts per cell or 14.22 volts for a "12V" battery. Anytime you charge a gel cell as high as about 14.1 volts, you are risking permanent (and possibly dangerous) damage.

Another thing to consider is the lifetime of the battery. Many high-quality batteries will give a lifetime of 300 or more charge/discharge cycles if you limit the percent of discharge to around 50%, but will give thousands of cycles if you limit the percent of discharge to 10 or 20%. Conversely, the number of cycles is cut way down if you discharge over 50%.

Again, the particular battery's specs take precedence, but a "rested" battery

(one which has not been charged or discharged within the last 24 hours) will read about 12.7 volts if it is fully charged and about 11.7 volts if it is

FULLY discharged. This means that if your "rested" battery reads 12.7 volts you may actually damage it if you hook it up to a charger. Actually, it is a little more complicated than that, but if it is rested and reading 12.7 or

higher, that a "float" charge current of about .05% of the battery capacity can be permitted as long as the voltage stays in the range 13.2-13.8.

Of course, this also means that if the "rested" voltage is 11.7 or below, then

you have -- as a minimum -- already limited the lifetime of your battery very severely. Since there is only about 1 volt between fully charged and fully discharged, every .1 volt difference in measurement means a lot and you need a good digital meter to measure it.

When a lead-acid battery is allowed to stay discharged for any length of time, sulphate crystals can form which permanently damage the battery. This means that you should not discharge the battery and wait a week or so before recharging it.

So you need to measure the current drain of your rig and multiply that by the number of hours you are going to use it (So many hours of transmit at one current, plus so many hours of receive at another current), and compare that total ampere-hour amount with the AH rating of your battery. It should be only one fifth of the battery's AH rating for long life, but not more than 50% of the battery's AH rating for "normal" battery life.

In addition, batteries are normally rated at so many AH provided the

discharging is done spread evenly over a 20 hour period. So, if you discharge at a rate greater than the AH rating divided by 20, then your battery will not be able to deliver the rated total AH. So your transmitter current drain shouldn't exceed AH/20 for best results.

Hope this helps.

Lyn, W4WDN

k7sz@juno.com wrote:

> I distinctly remember when building my gel-cell charger from Tejas  
> (K5BDZ) that the charge current had to be limited in order to avoid  
> cooking the gel-cell. Too much charge current would drastically shorten  
> battery life. The figure 1/10th stays in my mind....and, if correct,  
> would mean that maximum charge current for a 7 amp/hr gel-cell is 700 mA.  
> The author of the article states that his charge current is limited by  
> the inline 10 amp fuse to about 2-3 amps! OUCH!  
>  
> Anybody but me think that this is dangerous? If you didn't manage to blow  
> up the gel-cell you would surely cook it within a few charges to the  
> point of replacement. Maybe I am reading the author's description  
> incorrectly, or possibly I am mistaken about recharging gel-cells.  
>  
> Can anyone shed some light on this for me? I have wanted to get a couple  
> of Power Stations for FD but have shelved the idea until I can get some  
> definative information on this gel-cell recharging story.  
>  
> 73 rich K7SZ  
>  
> -----  
> You don't need to buy Internet access to use free Internet e-mail.  
> Get completely free e-mail from Juno at <http://www.juno.com>  
> Or call Juno at (800) 654-JUNO [654-5866]

-----  
Date: Wed, 18 Feb 1998 08:26:34 -0800  
From: LYN WILLIAMS <designserv@ipass.net>  
To: mikemo@ibm.net  
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [4146] Re: Floating Verticals and sloppy code.  
Message-ID: <34EB0BBA.737617E0@ipass.net>  
MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Michael Maiorana wrote:

> Re: sloppy code.  
> Very often I get in a qso with someone who is sending about at my limit,  
> but it seems that they run all the letters and words together. Anyone  
> else notice this, or is it just my poor copy skills. It was so bad with  
> one guy tonight I couldn't even copy 1 word solid.  
>

Yes, Mike,

We notice, but hope that just possible they had a poor or no instructor and just haven't thought about it. Surely, eventually they will try to talk with someone who sends just as badly and wake up to what's going on.

73

Lyn, W4WDN

"Some folks feel the rain -- Others just get wet"  
Johnny Cash

-----  
Date: Wed, 18 Feb 1998 07:43:15 -0600  
From: Chuck Carpenter <w5usj@webwide.net>  
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [4147] RE: Digi 'stuff' and FISTS  
Message-ID: <3.0.1.32.19980218074315.00699c9c@mail.webwide.net>  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

All,

As we all know, except for frequencies established during emergencies, no one owns any frequency. There are a lot of "brute-force squatters" on favorite frequencies though and many with restricted mental skills who like to harass others.

FISTS guidelines recommend frequencies ending in .x58 for the FISTS calling frequencies. When I'm looking for FISTS contacts, I look around 7.058, 14.058 and so on. For QRP to QRP contacts I look around the recommended

QRP calling frequencies. For contacts in general and the WARC bands I mostly listen for CQs.

Maybe it's time the QRP groups led the amateur radio state-of-the-art as Laura suggested and started using something like spread spectrum 8^)...

Anyway, I'd much rather be a sharp shooter than a blaster.

72/73 -- Chuck, W5USJ, EM22cv  
Rains County, Eagle Capitol of Texas  
ARCI # 5422, QRP-L # 1306, FISTS # 3984

-----  
Date: Wed, 18 Feb 1998 08:45:34 -0500 (EST)  
From: Jim Eshleman <lujce@hooch.CC.Lehigh.EDU>  
To: csnyder@nextdim.com  
Cc: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [4148] Re: QRP-L Number  
Message-ID: <98Feb18.084541-0500\_est.10431-12484+59@hooch.cc.Lehigh.EDU>  
Content-Type: text

The following command, in the body of an e-mail to listserv@Lehigh.EDU should snag you a QRP-L number:

RUN QRP-L X GETNR NONE

In other words you may specify NONE as your callsign. Drop me a note when you get your call and I'll update the database.

73 es GL  
Jim N3VXI

> Ron Smith, KD7VD, a while back you gave me some info regarding the  
> qrp-l number. Since I am a "Technician Class" wanna be (hopefully next  
> month), do I have to have a call-sign to get my number? Or, do I have to  
> wait until I pass the No-Code Tech exam and receive my ham license? Any  
> comments would be kindly appreciated.

-----  
Date: Wed, 18 Feb 1998 08:48:22 -0500 (EST)  
From: Jim Eshleman <lujce@hooch.CC.Lehigh.EDU>  
To: Arjen.Raateland@vyh.fi  
Cc: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [4149] Re: QRP-L password?

Message-ID: <98Feb18.084827-0500\_est.10431-12484+60@hooch.cc.Lehigh.EDU>  
Content-Type: text

Try this command:

RUN QRP-L X GETNR OH2ZAZ

as noted in the QRP-L welcome file. If you need another copy :-)

GET QRP-L WELCOME.TXT

73

Jim N3VXI

> I'm stumped. I requested and read the help files of the listserver until  
> I found how to retrieve my QRP-L number (worth 10% discount in selected  
> businesses ...).

-----  
Date: Wed, 18 Feb 1998 06:55:35 -0700 (MST)  
From: Bob Hightower <ki7mn@dancris.com>  
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [4150] FOX Tuesday  
Message-ID: <199802181355.GAA01244@user2.dancris.com>  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

Well, glad to see both Bertie (N7XJW) and I made it in the log. Was rough at times with the split working....some callers weren't aware of it and were still calling while Bob was trying to answer, right on his freq. I know on both of ours, he had to come back with the call and a ? mark, as we didn't hear his first reply, at least I didn't. Bertie's ears are much better than mine, so she caught it.

Please, try to figure out if a split is working, and get on it before calling.

73,

Bob KI7MN (ki7mn@dancris.com) Chandler, AZ  
NorCal #1221 ARCI #8918 Qrp-l #271 CQC #274 AK QRP #30 ARRL  
<http://www.dancris.com/~ki7mn>

-----  
Date: Wed, 18 Feb 1998 08:00:51 +0000

From: Jim <kj5tf@mctc.com>  
To: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [4151] Re: AR QRP 80 meter net a wash out  
Message-ID: <34EA9533.1091@mctc.com>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

>Tried to check in, but raining cats, dogs, and qrn big time in  
>Mississippi. Maybe next week.

>AMATEUR RADIO STATION K 5 X U  
>Jackson, Mississippi

Sorry about that! Bob N9ZZ had to QSY up to 3.561 because someone had a  
QSO going on "our" freq. We managed 3-4 check-ins with the worst QRN  
I've heard in the nearly 3 years we've had our Ar QRP net there.  
Hang in there and it'll work next week.

Tonight be sure and look for the 40M net. It's set for 7PM central,  
around 7.042-3mHz. I (KJ5TF) will be calling the net tonight.

de Jim, AR QRP #2

-----  
Date: Wed, 18 Feb 1998 07:08:33 -0700  
From: John Evans - N0HJ <jaevans@codenet.net>  
To: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [4152] WTD: Source for Norcal project cases  
Message-ID: <34EAEB61.47426A5@codenet.net>  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Greetings,

Does anyone know where Wilderness and Norcal gets the nice half shell  
cases for their projects, i.e., the Norcal 40a, SLT, Sierra, et al.??  
I'd love to buy some for projects.

tnx es 72 - john - n0hj

-----  
John A. Evans                      Chief Systems Administrator  
Office: (719) 528-1800 x164      Titan Software Systems

Fax: (719) 528-1888 1115 Elkton Drive, Suite 200  
email: jaevans@cos.cst.titan.com Colorado Springs, CO 80907-3535

-----  
Norcal #262 QRP-L #219 QRP-ARCI #8303 NE-QRP #213 CQC #045  
CQrp #15 NJ-QRP #50 AK-QRP #52 NW-QRP #454 FISTS #3184  
Personal Web Page: <http://www.geocities.com/capecanaveral/9773/>  
-----

-----  
Date: Wed, 18 Feb 1998 08:08:31 +0000  
From: Jim <kj5tf@mctc.com>  
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [4153] AR 40M QRP net tonight 7PM  
Message-ID: <34EA96FF.5CDA@mctc.com>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Look for us tonight (Wednesday) at 7PM central, near 7.042-3mHz.

The net will be called by me, KJ5TF. I'm running 5 watts from a QRP+ into a dipole. I'm located at 2210' elevation, and powered by batteries charged by solar and wind power. cu, de Jim AR QRP #2

-----  
Date: Wed, 18 Feb 1998 14:17:28 GMT  
From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (Chuck Adams)  
To: Arjen.Raateland@vyh.fi  
Cc: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [4154] Re: QRP-L password?  
Message-ID: <199802181417.0AA03623@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>

Arjen et.al.,

The command summary is

RUN QRP-L X GETNR your\_call

There is no password required, just put an X and you will be OK.  
None of the commands require an official password at this time.

Chuck Adams K5FO Dallas,TX CP-60  
<http://reality.sgi.com/adams> adams@sgi.com

-----  
Date: Wed, 18 Feb 1998 08:21:54 -0600  
From: John Burnley <JBurnley@ifmc.org>  
To: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [4155] FCC question pool website and C-64 manuals  
Message-ID: <s4ea9a38.066@ifmc.org>  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain  
Content-Disposition: inline

Could someone please point me to a website(s) that contains the current FCC question pools. My 13 year old said he's ready to persue a ticket! I've been waiting for that news!

Just fininshed my PIXIE II kit and fighting with an Altoids tin for the finished product. First time I've done this. What fun! Hope to see you on 40 with this rig in the next few weeks.

I also ran across a couple of Commodore 64 manuals that I'd like to sell/swap for any QRP goodies (parts, unbuilt boards, etc). They are the C-64 Programmers Reference Guide and the 1541 Disk Drive. Sold the unit several years ago and didn't realize I still had the manuals.

Thanks for the bandwidth!

72/73,

John NU0V  
Urbandale, IA

-----  
Date: Wed, 18 Feb 1998 09:21:14 -0500  
From: sgordon1@ibm.net  
To: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [4156] QRP Kit  
Message-ID: <34EAEE5A.11AF@ibm.net>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit



Anyone have any information about "Dan's Small Parts Kits"

Looking into building his 20M SSB/cw Centennial Kit?

Anyone else had any experience with his products? Does he give easy to follow instructions? Do I still have to shop for other parts and such? Anyone built this kit? How is it working out? I will be using this mostly mobile on 20 m ssb.

Thanks

Scott

73

KQ8RP

-----  
Date: Wed, 18 Feb 1998 16:33:11 +0200  
From: Arjen Raateland <Arjen.Raateland@vyh.fi>  
To: Bob Hirsch <bobh@p3.net>  
Cc: QRP-L <QRP-L@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [4157] Re: QRP-L password?  
Message-ID: <34EAF127.31C4@vyh.fi>  
MIME-version: 1.0  
Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

Bob Hirsch wrote:

> I believe you are missing the syntax a little. If you want to verify your qrp-l number send this"

> run qrp-l x getnr <your callsign>

>

> That "x" is what you were missing, and it acts as a "password".

> If you already have a number it will give it to you again and if you don't it will assign one.

>

> 72/73 de Bob, W3CW

Bob et al.,

I've got it. I got the wrong help files (from listserver commands HELP and RUN QRP-L).

Your help is worth more than the proverbial 2 cents (x N), now that a QRP-L number will get one a discount ;-)

I see the number N of respondents is still going up, but I've got my number already, so ....

Thanks and sorry for the noise,

--

Arjen Raateland  
Finnish Environment Institute  
SAS Support  
phone +358 9 4030 0457

-----  
Date: Wed, 18 Feb 1998 08:36:30 -6  
From: "Bill Kelsey - N8ET - Kanga US" <kanga@bright.net>  
To: "Robert D. Brown" <bogateer@vegasnet.net>  
Cc: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [4158] Re: 2M or 6M QRP  
Message-ID: <199802181435.JAA15920@sparticus.bright.net>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII  
Content-transfer-encoding: 7BIT

Rob - If you check out my Web Site at [www.bright.net/~kanga/kanga/](http://www.bright.net/~kanga/kanga/)  
you will find some QRP kits for 6 m cw from Kanga, and a much more  
complex 6m xcvr kit from Hands Electronics.....

73 - Bill - N8ET  
Kanga@bright.net  
[www.bright.net/~kanga/kanga/](http://www.bright.net/~kanga/kanga/)

-----  
Date: Wed, 18 Feb 1998 10:36:55 -0500 (EST)  
From: "Scott Rosenfeld [NF3I]" <ham@w3eax.umd.edu>  
To: qrp-1 <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [4159] Ten-Tec kit order placed!  
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.3.95.980218102129.23363A-1000000@w3eax.umd.edu>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

Nearly everything is, or will be by the end of the week, in stock. All  
but the 1253 and 1254 SW receivers should be on their way to me by Friday  
of this week. The 1254s should be heading out by the middle of next  
week, and the 1253 in a few weeks.

Someone asked on the details of the order. If you really want to know,  
for informational purposes, this is a list of those ordered:

| Kit   | Qty | Reg.     | Disc.    | Ext.     |
|-------|-----|----------|----------|----------|
| 1001  | 3   | \$9.00   | \$8.10   | \$24.30  |
| 1050  | 2   | \$9.00   | \$8.10   | \$16.20  |
| 1051  | 4   | \$17.00  | \$15.30  | \$61.20  |
| 1054  | 1   | \$24.00  | \$21.60  | \$21.60  |
| 1056  | 4   | \$29.00  | \$26.10  | \$104.40 |
| 1060  | 1   | \$9.00   | \$8.10   | \$8.10   |
| 1064  | 2   | \$19.00  | \$17.10  | \$34.20  |
| 1202  | 7   | \$49.00  | \$44.10  | \$308.70 |
| 1208  | 3   | \$95.00  | \$85.50  | \$256.50 |
| 1209  | 1   | \$95.00  | \$85.50  | \$85.50  |
| 1210  | 1   | \$139.00 | \$125.10 | \$125.10 |
| 1220  | 1   | \$195.00 | \$175.50 | \$175.50 |
| 1230  | 1   | \$295.00 | \$265.50 | \$265.50 |
| 1251  | 1   | \$49.00  | \$44.10  | \$44.10  |
| 1253  | 1   | \$59.00  | \$53.10  | \$53.10  |
| 1254  | 5   | \$195.00 | \$175.50 | \$877.50 |
| 1320  | 3   | \$95.00  | \$85.50  | \$256.50 |
| 1330  | 1   | \$95.00  | \$85.50  | \$85.50  |
| 1340  | 3   | \$95.00  | \$85.50  | \$256.50 |
| 1550  | 2   | \$10.00  | \$9.00   | \$18.00  |
| 1551  | 5   | \$12.00  | \$10..80 | \$54.00  |
| 1552  | 1   | \$12.00  | \$10.80  | \$10.80  |
| 1000A | 3   | \$15.50  | \$13.95  | \$41.85  |
| TG26  | 1   | \$8.13   | \$8.13   | \$8.13   |
| TP18  | 1   | \$4.96   | \$4.96   | \$4.96   |
| TP19  | 1   | \$5.08   | \$5.08   | \$5.08   |
| TP38  | 1   | \$12.97  | \$12.97  | \$12.97  |
| TP41  | 1   | \$5.75   | \$5.75   | \$5.75   |
| TP42  | 1   | \$6.11   | \$6.11   | \$6.11   |
| TP45  | 2   | \$7.56   | \$7.56   | \$15.12  |

Total        64                    \$3,242.77 (subject to verification by TT)

Well, for those interested, there ya go. There were a total of 34 participants, making this IMHO a good-sized purchase. The real fun begins when, in about a week, I get to start re-packaging for shipment.

\* Scott Rosenfeld NF3I Burtonsville, MD FM19mc QRV 80-10/6/2/440 \*  
 \* 6m 82 grids on 8w \* DXCC WAS WAC \* QRP-L #147 \* QRP ARCI #9054 \*  
 \* <http://w3eax.umd.edu/~ham> \* ARRL Life Member /Laurel ARC/UMARA \*  
 \*\*\* 301-549-1022 h 301-982-1015 w \*\*\* 35 wpm HF mobile CW Neon \*\*\*

-----

Date: Wed, 18 Feb 1998 09:55:48 -0500  
From: Sam Billingsley <SBillingsley@usaninc.com>  
To: "GQRP-list (E-mail)" <gqrp-l@blacksheep.org>, "Qrp-L (E-mail)" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [4160] Solar Panel Output Regulation  
Message-ID: <21E06269B00ED111BE9B00805F6D0FA3178D14@MAILSERVER1>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain

To extend my portable QRP activities for camping and backpacking I recently picked a low capacity Solar panel (nominal 15v at 125ma). I noticed in bright sun the output under very light load goes up to 19v. I was concerned that if I tried to use it with my low 4-7AH gell cells that I could do damage to them over time. I have looked at the possibility of both shunt and series regulators to keep the charge voltage under control. QRP Power has a reference to a shunt circuit that looks good. I also picked up a IC 723 variable voltage regulator that can handle up to 150ma. Can anyone share any building experiences or point me to some circuit references.

Sam AE4GX

-----  
Date: Wed, 18 Feb 1998 06:57:38 -0800  
From: Jack Parker <Pparker@greatbasin.net>  
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [4161] Re: 2M or 6M QRP, which one?  
Message-ID: <3.0.1.32.19980218065738.0068cbe8@mail.greatbasin.net>  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

At 10:42 AM 2/17/98 -0500, you wrote:

>  
>Hi Gang,  
>  
>Time to take the plunge into VHF QRP operations. Down comes the 20M  
>X-beam and up will go the \_\_ M Yagi. But for which band? I cannot decide!

<snip>

>  
>TNX es 72, Mark N2VPK  
>  
>  
>  
>

Mark...I'd strongly suggest 6 for qrp operations, for several reasons.

First, when six is open, it's usually open for everyone. I worked WAS on 6 never running more than 10-watts, but I had a good yagi (6-element Wilson on a 24-foot boom). I also worked some nice DX during the sunspot peak in 1980-81, like KX6QC (Kwajalein Atoll) and ZL1AVZ (New Zealand) from North Dakota! 6 can be open at any time and in any season, but the next few years are going to see more good DX possibilities with the sunspot cycle on the upswing. Even with no F-layer openings there are always sporadic E openings that can occur without particular regard to sunspots. Also possible is aurora openings, but generally for those in northern latitudes.

The problem with 2-meter QRP is that for consistent DX work you are looking at modes like meteor-scatter or EME, unless you are located on a high mountain. The band doesn't open often for sporadic-E, and the opportunities for anything other than ground-wave propagation from a flat-land location are limited. For the past 2-years I've been going to mountain-top sites (8,000 to 10,000 foot elevations) and running 2-meter QRP during VHF contests. From a site like that I can work 350+ miles, consistently, with 10-watts and an 11-element yagi, but I cannot duplicate that from my home QTH.

Hope this is of some assistance in making your decision!

72/73,

Jack Parker, W7PW

QRP-L #1310, 10GHz VUCC #3, 50MHz WAS, SMIRK #3335, ARRL Life Member, DM-09

"...the time is fast approaching when freedom, public peace, and social order itself will not be able to exist without education."

Alexis de Tocqueville--Democracy in America (1834)

-----  
Date: Wed, 18 Feb 1998 09:05:45 -0600  
From: Kevin Muenzler <wb5rue@stic.net>  
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>, "'JBurnley@ifmc.org'"  
<JBurnley@ifmc.org>  
Subject: [4162] RE: FCC question pool website and C-64 manuals  
Message-ID: <01BD3C4C.668ADEC0@muenzlerk.uthscsa.edu>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

On JBurnley@ifmc.org, John Burnley[SMTP:JBurnley@ifmc.org] wrote:  
> Could someone please point me to a website(s) that contains the  
> current FCC question pools. My 13 year old said he's ready to

> persue a ticket! I've been waiting for that news!  
>  
<snip>  
> 72/73,  
>  
> John NU0V  
> Urbandale, IA  
>

GREAT! One word of caution....don't let him use this to  
memorize the test. It makes a great practice aid but should  
not be used for memorization purposes. The best of luck to  
your son.

<http://www.biochem.mcw.edu/Postdocs/Simon/radio/exam.html>

73,  
Kevin, WB5RUE

-----  
Date: Wed, 18 Feb 1998 09:08:09 -0600  
From: crc <crc@io.com>  
To: qrp-l <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [4163] new QRP radio  
Message-ID: <34EAF959.6C6D@io.com>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

For Xmas this year my son got a watch with an FM rcvr built in (\$12.95  
at walmart)...started me thinking maybe qrp watches are the wave of the  
future....for grounding we could all wear golf shoes with a cable  
running down our pants leg.....tho I think the antenna placement may  
give us some trouble.....%) charlie WA5KRF

-----  
Date: Wed, 18 Feb 1998 09:06:53 -0600  
From: Ed Manuel <n5em@flash.net>  
To: mikemo@ibm.net  
Cc: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [4164] Re: Floating Verticals  
Message-ID: <3.0.5.32.19980218090653.00840100@pop.flash.net>  
Mime-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

At 10:57 PM 02/17/1998 -0500, you wrote:

>Here is an idea that I want to throw out there for evaluation by the  
>antenna gurus.

So much for the antenna gurus, all the responses jumped on your CW question.

Well, I think your idea has definite possibilities. The biggest problem will be the susceptibility of your feedline to deterioration. I'd think the salt water would just eat everything up. If I may suggest, put your antenna on a sharp rod, or better yet, take your St. Louis Vertical (now don't tell me you don't have one) and stick it in the sand/mud right at waters edge on the side of the bar that has nothing but water toward where you want to work. That way, your feedline is on the land but the part of the ground that counts (toward the direction you want to work) is over salt water. Actually, you will find that the land on the causeway is so soaked from the water, it's almost as good a ground as the water.

N4BP has had one of the most successful and consistent field day operations, using an all band vertical, mounted to the bumper of his camper, sitting in a campsite at a state park in the Keys. I would get it down to waters edge given the chance, but I don't think I'd try to float it - unless it was mounted to a nice sailboat with a fridge full of cold brewsky.

Also, an antenna like the SLV is a full quarterwave at 20 meters and will really outperform the loaded Hamstick or equivalent. And, the SLV is as easy to transport.

There was a picture on the Adventure Radio Society's Web page of an operating position that Wayne Burdick used almost like you are talking about.

[http://www.natworld.com/ars/photos/images/n6kr\\_3.jpg](http://www.natworld.com/ars/photos/images/n6kr_3.jpg)

Check this one out. You'll love it.

Ed, N5EM  
n5em@amsat.org

-----  
Date: Wed, 18 Feb 1998 10:15:42 -0500 (EST)  
From: n4js@pobox.com  
To: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [4165] Texas Curtain

Message-ID: <XFMail.980218101542.n4js@pobox.com>  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 8bit  
MIME-Version: 1.0

Copied Bob here in NJ the whole time, from 579 down to 229. Called a BUNCH but even with the GQ40, couldn't punch through the "Texas Curtain." Heard thos big signal reports for the midwest. Guess it's the price I pay to get to go fishing is REAL water! Did notice that no other NY NJ or PA stations were able to punch through. Oh well....and I have to work Monday, for Doc's stint as fox...NUTS! (Maybe try the mobile...???)

Sent at 10:15:42 on 18-Feb-98

John L. Sielke n4js@amsat.org n4js@pobox.com  
n4js@qsl.net NJ Grid:FM29LN  
http://www.qsl.net/n4js NJ-QRP #57 QRP-L #884  
QRP-ARCI CQC #443 CQrp #50 AKQrp ARQrp  
NE-QRP #507 G-QRP #9544 NorCal #1989 QCWA FISTS #2781 ARS #243

-----  
Date: Wed, 18 Feb 1998 09:22:41 -0600  
From: Kevin Muenzler <wb5rue@stic.net>  
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>, "'n5em@flash.net'"  
<n5em@flash.net>  
Subject: [4166] RE: Floating Verticals  
Message-ID: <01BD3C4E.C3B55B00@muenzlerk.uthscsa.edu>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I had some of these last week when a storm sent some of my antennas crashing into my pool.

:>

Kevin, WB5RUE

-----  
Date: Wed, 18 Feb 1998 07:49:13 -0800  
From: Vic Rosenthal <rakefet@rakefet.com>  
To: mikemo@ibm.net



Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [4167] Re: Floating Verticals and sloppy code.  
Message-ID: <34EB02F9.89B337F2@rakefet.com>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Michael Maiorana wrote:

>

> Is this worth the effort, or would I be just as good  
> mounting the hamstick to my bumper.

There are two kinds of ground loss that are relevant. One is the actual ground return resistance at the base of your whip, and this is why you need radials or a counterpoise (even so-called 'ground-independent' vertical antennas have something which acts as a counterpoise). If your car is reasonably large and metal parts are bonded together, or you have a few temporary radials attached to it, probably putting the antenna out in the water will not help the ground return resistance THAT much, especially at higher frequencies (above 40 meters). A hamstick at 40 or 80 has a very low radiation resistance, though, so you need a very low ground return resistance if you want reasonable efficiency.

The other ground loss is caused by the conductivity of the ground in the Fresnel zone, which is located several wavelengths from the antenna. Just parking by the water should help with this.

Vic K2VCO

-----

Date: Wed, 18 Feb 1998 15:52:30 GMT  
From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (Chuck Adams)  
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [4168] Elmer101: 1N34A SPICE model  
Message-ID: <199802181552.PAA04027@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>

Gang,

A number of people were interested in the 1N34A SPICE model when I got one, so here it is to the group at large. In fact, in all the searching and searching there was not one instance of a web site that had any Germanium transistor SPICE models!!

I was given this model by a well known individual W7EL and I want to thank Roy very much for his work and contribution to this group and the world at large. The model is subject to change as I do a couple of more experiments to see if the transit time may enter into RF experimentation. Probably not at less than VHF freqs but it doesn't hurt to check it out. I'm thinking of a value on the order of 0.25nS or so.

```
.MODEL 1N34A D ( bv=75 cjo=0.5e-12 eg=0.67 ibv=18e-3
+               is=2e-7 rs=7 n=1.3 vj=0.1 m=0.27 )
```

As part of the ongoing education process here are the diode parameters for SPICE and their default values:

| Name | Parameter                                                  | Default Value |
|------|------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|
| IS   | Saturation Current in amps                                 | 1.0E-14       |
| RS   | Ohmic Resistance in ohms                                   | 0.0           |
| N    | Emission Coefficient                                       | 1.0           |
| TT   | Transit Time in seconds                                    | 0.0           |
| CJO  | Zero-bias Junction Capacitance in Farads                   | 0.0           |
| VJ   | Junction Potential in Volts                                | 1.0           |
| M    | Grading Coefficient                                        | 0.5           |
| EG   | Activation Energy in eV                                    | 1.11          |
| XTI  | Saturation-current temperature exponent                    | 3.0           |
| KF   | Flicker noise coefficient                                  | 0             |
| AF   | Flicker noise exponent                                     | 1             |
| FC   | Coefficient for Forward-bias depletion capacitance formula | 0.5           |
| BV   | Reverse breakdown voltage in Volts                         | Infinite      |
| IBV  | Current in amps at breakdown voltage                       | 1.0E-3        |

I realize that some of this stuff does take some experience in Physics and Electrical Engineering to get all the details, but it is all important and not to be neglected.

FYI

Chuck Adams K5FO Dallas,TX CP-60  
<http://reality.sgi.com/adams> adams@sgi.com

-----

Date: Wed, 18 Feb 1998 08:32:26 -0800 (PST)  
From: Monte Stark <ku7y@sage.dri.edu>  
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [4169] Re: sloppy code.  
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.90.980218081136.19586C-100000@vortex>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

Hi All,

> "Some folks feel the rain -- Others just get wet"  
> Johnny Cash

This made me think!

I've told this story before but I think it's time to tell  
it again. Many new people here now.

One day I was calling CQ at about 30ish wpm. A strong sig came  
back to me at about 15 wpm and it was also very, very poor sending.  
I almost didn't respond, but I can't do that! So I slowed down to  
his speed and started the QSO. (Remember, the convention is to call  
a station at the same speed they are calling CQ. If you want to  
go faster or slower, find someone who is calling at that speed, or  
call CQ yourself). (And it's also convention to reply at the same  
speed as the caller).

He came back and told me to send as fast as I wanted, up to about 50  
to 60 wpm. Then he explained that he had had a stroke and could  
not send well! We went on to have a very nice chat that lasted for  
well over an hour.

I have never again thought badly about how the other station sends!

And I feel strongly that if the other station is sending dits and  
dahs with a difference, I should be able to copy them! 2 to 1, 3 to 1  
4 to 1 or what ever. If they run all the letters together into one  
BIG word, I should be able to figure out what he is saying.

In the days before machine code, this was a skill that you just  
learned. You could recognize people by the way they sent. If you  
couldn't copy someone, it was your fault. Granted, some were much  
easier to copy than others. And there were then and still are many  
that I never got good enough to copy well.

CW used to be an art form, but now it's being replaced with the

cold hard output of a computer!

Does this mean we should send bad and not worry about it? No! We should have enough pride in our sending to want it to sound just like a machine. And we should be willing to work at getting it that way. I still remember the days of sitting there reading the handbook and sending it with a bug just for practice! How many of us do things like that now? :-)

So just work at being able to copy CW....ALL cw, not just the machine sent stuff. And remember that the person on the other end might never have had someone show them how, or maybe they just don't care what it sounds like, or maybe they are brand new to cw, or maybe they really know better but are doing the very best they can!!

I guess it could be said this way.... Listen to what they say, not how they say it!

OK, back into my hole,

73, Ron,        SOWP 5545M,

.....KU7Y.....ARCI #8829.....Monte "Ron" Stark.....  
....ku7y@sage.dri.edu.....Washoe Lake, Nevada.....  
....QRP-L #17...ARS #49...NorCal #330.....NRA LIFE.....

-----  
Date: Wed, 18 Feb 1998 09:40:36 -0700  
From: John Evans - N0HJ <jaevans@codenet.net>  
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [4170] WTD: Unbuilt Norcal Sierra Kit  
Message-ID: <34EB0F04.96CEA3F0@codenet.net>  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Greetings,

Just in the off chance there is an unbuilt sierra out there that may be eligible for a new home, I ask the question, "wanna sell your unbuilt Norcal Sierra??"

tnx es 72 - john - n0hj

-----  
John A. Evans

Chief Systems Administrator

Office: (719) 528-1800 x164 Titan Software Systems  
Fax: (719) 528-1888 1115 Elkton Drive, Suite 200  
email: jaevans@cos.cst.titan.com Colorado Springs, CO 80907-3535

---

Norcal #262 QRP-L #219 QRP-ARCI #8303 NE-QRP #213 CQC #045  
CQrp #15 NJ-QRP #50 AK-QRP #52 NW-QRP #454 FISTS #3184  
Personal Web Page: <http://www.geocities.com/capecanaveral/9773/>

---

-----

Date: Wed, 18 Feb 1998 11:30:20 -0800  
From: LYN WILLIAMS <designserv@ipass.net>  
To: SBillingsley@usaninc.com  
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [4171] Re: Solar Panel Output Regulation  
Message-ID: <34EB36CC.64FBB428@ipass.net>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Sam Billingsley wrote:

> To extend my portable QRP activities for camping and backpacking I  
> recently picked a low capacity Solar panel (nominal 15v at 125ma). I  
> noticed in bright sun the output under very light load goes up to 19v. I  
> was concerned that if I tried to use it with my low 4-7AH gell cells  
> that I could do damage to them over time.

Sam,

In addition to being able to damage your battery over time, the solar panel could possibly have serious adverse effects on your rig if it were connected directly to it without regulation.

As background, see my previous notes about charging gel cell batteries. I'll forward a copy direct to avoid repeating.

There are basically two popular ways of using solar panels to charge batteries -- the "shunt" method and voltage regulators. In the "shunt" method, a diode is put between the output of the panel and the battery. This is basically to prevent the panel from discharging the battery after the sun goes down. A voltage monitor keeps check on the battery voltage and operates a relay or other mechanism when the battery voltage gets up to high enough. This relay sometimes just shorts another low-resistance load directly across the solar panel -- thus lowering the output voltage so low that it can no longer charge the battery. Sometimes, the relay

just disconnects the panel, in case you don't need that energy for other tasks, such as heating water or operating a fan or whatever. This "shunt" method has certain advantages, which I'll mention later.

The other popular way is to use a voltage regulator to regulate the solar panel output at low enough voltage to keep from damaging the battery (or the rig) -- typically between 13.2 to 13.8 volts. This has the decided advantage of preventing overcharge of the battery, but it has some disadvantages: 1. Depending on your panel capability and your rig current, you may waste a lot of energy heating up a heat sink in order to protect your regulator. 2. While 13.8 volts can put somewhat of a charge on a battery, after the sun goes down you want the battery to be as fully charged as you can get it and 13.8 volts is not enough to do that. 3. If your solar panel is large (mine is) and you are QRO (oops - shouldn't have mentioned that here) then the regulator can require techniques and devices that aren't cheap and aren't found on Tandy shelves.

Note that the manufacturer's recommendations for your particular battery takes precedence over the following and normal disclaimers apply (If you pay any attention to me you do it at your own risk).

Charging lead-acid batteries fully and properly requires 3 or more stages:

1. Controlling the charging current at a rate equal to about 10%-15% of the AH capacity of the battery, while monitoring the battery voltage, which will gradually climb.
2. When the battery voltage reaches 14.1 volts for sealed and gel cells, or 14.22 volts for open (refillable) wet cell batteries, hold the voltage constant at that voltage and monitor the current, which will gradually drop.

(The monitor for the shunt regulator can monitor this voltage, but most of them aren't equipped to hold it there while monitoring the current. If the shunt regulator lets the voltage get this high before switching in the shunt, then your battery is more fully charged than it would be if you used a series regulator at 13.x volts.)

3. When the current drops to about 2.5% of the AH capacity the battery is close to fully charged. At this point you may disconnect the charger or may switch to a "float" regulator. Some "float" regulators regulate at about 13.8 volts with no load on the battery; Others regulate the float current at about .05% of the battery's AH rating.

Once a discharge occurs, start back at step one. Most shunt regulators

have no provision for switching in a float charger, so that last little bit of oomph may not be present at the time you use the battery. This is usually a concern only if your battery uses older technology which may have a high self-discharge rate. (Older designs would self-discharge gradually -- typically 5% or so per week -- with no load attached. That is probably the source of the old myth about a battery discharging if left on a concrete floor.)

Better controllers can be set to automatically disconnect the load (your rig) if the battery voltage drops down to the point where the life of the battery is threatened (say, at 50% discharge or lower, depending on just how bad you want to protect the battery).

With this info you should be able to evaluate different solar controllers to see how well they will do your job. Have fun!

73,  
Lyn, W4WDN

>

-----  
Date: Wed, 18 Feb 1998 11:43:29 EST  
From: GERALDCUND@aol.com  
To: sgordon1@ibm.net  
Cc: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [4172] Re: QRP Kit  
Message-ID: <72b21fd2.34eb0fb3@aol.com>  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII  
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

I've never bought a kit from Dans, only parts. I received great service though.

Dan's website and online catalog address is:

<http://www.fix.net./dans.html>

-----  
The mailing address is:

Dan's Small Parts and Kits  
Box 3634  
Missoula MT 59806-3634

Gerald,KE4LIA

-----  
Date: Wed, 18 Feb 1998 08:57:39 -0800 (PST)  
From: "S. Lee" <slee@u.washington.edu>  
To: Sam Billingsley <SBillingsley@usaninc.com>  
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [4173] Re: Solar Panel Output Regulation  
Message-ID: <Pine.A41.3.95b.980218084906.28172B-100000@homer29.u.washington.edu>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

I've used the LM-723 for voltage regulation. It's a good robust chip. I believe Astron uses these in their line of power supplies. Have not used the LM-723 in a solar charger situation. One capacitor and 3 or four resistors are all that is needed for a minimum configuration. Add a pass transistor to increase the current capacity. Data sheet available at:  
<http://www.national.com/pf/LM/LM723/html>

Unitrode makes a good shunt regulator, their UC3908 is a programmable voltage clamp. Data sheet available at:  
<http://www.uicc.com/powsub6.htm>

You'll also find Unitrode's UC3906 sealed lead acid battery charger on their web page. Some of the ARRL handbooks have circuits based on this device. Good luck Sam! de AB7HI, Stephen Lee, Federal Way, WA  
slee@u.washington.edu

-----  
Date: Wed, 18 Feb 1998 12:24:34 -0800  
From: LYN WILLIAMS <designserv@ipass.net>  
To: slee@u.washington.edu  
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [4174] Re: Solar Panel Output Regulation  
Message-ID: <34EB4382.E5A5626A@ipass.net>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit



S. Lee wrote:

> I've used the LM-723 for voltage regulation. It's a good robust  
> chip. I believe Astron uses these in their line of power supplies.  
>

Thanks, Stephen.

Just one of my solar panels puts out 7.1 amps in bright sun.

73,Lyn, W4WDN

-----  
Date: Wed, 18 Feb 1998 12:35:57 -0500 (EST)  
From: Jim Eshleman <lujce@hooch.cc.Lehigh.EDU>  
To: ku7y@sage.dri.edu  
Cc: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [4175] Re: sloppy code.  
Message-ID: <98Feb18.123600-0500\_est.10431-12484+62@hooch.cc.Lehigh.EDU>  
Content-Type: text

> I guess it could be said this way.... Listen to what they say,  
> not how they say it!

Ron,

There's a rule of thumb we use when designing client/server applications that goes something like this:

> Be liberal in what you accept, and conservative in what you send.

Words to live by :-) Sorry, it just popped into my head when I read your post and strangely (or not) seems to apply here...

73  
Jim N3VXI

-----  
Date: Wed, 18 Feb 1998 12:42:48 EST  
From: K5BDZ@aol.com  
To: slee@u.washington.edu, qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [4176] Re: Solar Panel Output Regulation  
Message-ID: <1c2ab45c.34eb1d9a@aol.com>

Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII  
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

<< <http://www.national.com/pf/LM/LM723/html> >>

Web doesn't like this address. Will look up working address later. Thanks  
Bill, K5BDZ

-----  
Date: Wed, 18 Feb 98 09:48:25 -0000  
From: Russ Carpenter <russ@natworld.com>  
To: "QRP-L List" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [4177] First Announcement of the MARCH SPARTAN SPRINT  
Message-ID: <199802181743.JAA25991@guppy.pond.net>  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"

The March Spartan Sprint will be held on March 2 (which is our standard date--the first monday of the month). We will be operating on two bands--80 and 40. Don't worry if your station is a bit obese. We commend the winners in two categories--points (the Tubby Division), and points per pound (the Skinny Division).

If you are a newcomer to the Sprints, take a look at the introductory material at the end of this post.

1. Start at 9:00 PM EST, 8:00 CST, 7:00 MST and 6:00 PST. Finish at 11:00 PM EST, 10:00 CST, 9:00 MST and 8:00 PST.
2. The frequencies will be 3560+- Khz and 7040+- KHz. (You may operate one or two bands--your choice.)
3. Exchange RST, SPC (state, province or country) and power output.
4. If you choose to call CQ, use the format "CQ SP".
5. You can take credit for working the same station on a second band.

After the contest, send Russ Carpenter, AA7QU, an e-mail with your total QSOs and the total weight of your station (i.e., the combined weight of the

transmitter, receiver, key, keyer and battery). You may also include your comments from the soapbox. Russ' email address is russ@natworld.com.

As an alternative, you can use our automated Spartan Sprint report at the ARS web site. Just fill in a few boxes, click the "submit" button, and you're done! You can get directly to the report page with this URL: [http://www.natworld.com/ars/events/spartan/submit\\_spartan.html](http://www.natworld.com/ars/events/spartan/submit_spartan.html). Or you can take a more leisurely (and rewarding) stroll through the ARS site by going to the home page at <http://www.natworld.com/ars>.

\*\*\*\*\*

The Spartan Sprint is based on a simple but stimulating concept. We are encouraging all of you to cobble together the kind of station you'd use in a portable environment--lightweight transceiver, keyer, key, and battery. Then put that turkey on the air, and participate in a two hour sprint.

All operators are invited to play, whether or not they are members of Adventure Radio Society. Even if you don't have lightweight equipment, your participation will be rewarding, both for you and the other participants. We'll report the score in two different formats--absolute scores, and points per pound of station weight. So you can get your kicks from running up a magnificent score, or achieving an remarkable ratio of points per pound.

If you're thinking about becoming a member of Adventure Radio Society, just send Richard Fisher (our membership chairman) an e-mail expressing your interest. Richard's e-mail address is nu6SN@aol.com. Membership is free, and the organization has a great group of men and women who combine their love of ham radio with their affection for the outdoors. You don't need to be a macho person; ARS welcomes people of all ages and levels of ability.

Russ Carpenter, AA7QU, Contest Manager

russ@natworld.com

-----  
Date: Wed, 18 Feb 1998 12:47:03 -0800  
From: LYN WILLIAMS <designserv@ipass.net>  
To: K5BDZ@aol.com  
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>

Subject: [4178] Re: Solar Panel Output Regulation  
Message-ID: <34EB48C7.50245410@ipass.net>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

K5BDZ@aol.com wrote:

> << <http://www.national.com/pf/LM/LM723/html> >>  
>  
> Web doesn't like this address. Will look up working address later. Thanks  
> Bill, K5BDZ

<http://www.national.com/pf/LM/LM723.html>

was the address I wound up at after starting at [www.national.com](http://www.national.com) and following the chain thru design engineer, selecting chip lm723 for search, then selecting

ln723/lm723c from answers suggested.

Lyn, W4WDN

-----  
Date: Wed, 18 Feb 1998 09:09:31 -0800  
From: dave\_epps@juno.com  
To: SBillingsley@usaninc.com  
Cc: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [4179] Re: Solar Panel Output Regulation  
Message-ID: <19980218.100137.6678.0.dave\_epps@juno.com>

There is a good article on a solar-powered charger with a simple controller in Mar '98 CQ-VHF mag. Looks to be just what you are looking for. I plan to build one for the portable qrp stn. Where did you get the panel?

dave ab5pc fresno, ca.

On Wed, 18 Feb 1998 09:55:48 -0500 Sam Billingsley  
<SBillingsley@usaninc.com> writes:  
>To extend my portable QRP activities for camping and backpacking I  
>recently picked a low capacity Solar panel (nominal 15v at 125ma). I  
>noticed in bright sun the output under very light load goes up to 19v.  
>I

>was concerned that if if tried to use it with my low 4-7AH gell cells  
>that I could do damage to them over time. I have looked at the  
>possibility of both shunt and series regulators to keep the charge  
>voltage under control. QRP Power has a reference to a shunt circuit  
>that  
>looks good. I also picked up a IC 723 variable voltage regulator that  
>can handle up to 150ma. Can anyone share any building experiences or  
>point me to some circuit references.  
>  
>Sam AE4GX  
>  
>

---

You don't need to buy Internet access to use free Internet e-mail.  
Get completely free e-mail from Juno at <http://www.juno.com>  
Or call Juno at (800) 654-JUNO [654-5866]

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Date: Wed, 18 Feb 1998 10:38:55 -0600  
From: Larry Cruise <Larry.Cruise@mci.com>  
To: "'QRP-L'" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [4180] Ade Weiss /FOX question  
Message-ID: <01BD3C59.6D3FDE20@atnmax3-43.mcit.com>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable

Ade Weiss wrote:

>Also, do all QRP'rs go to bed at sunset except on FOX nights?

Ade you have to understand us old FOX hunters need all the rest we can =  
get before the chase begins. Running in the pack takes lots out of us =  
old guys. :)

The other evening I decided to conserve my energy by using the "Adams =  
(K5FO) uncertainty principle." This principle states you try to get in =  
after most of the pack has gone. This works well at times, but the =  
uncertainty comes about because the band may go away on you. Worked =  
great last evening as I got in right after you.

-72 Larry aa5ta

-----  
Date: Wed, 18 Feb 1998 11:33:20 -0700  
From: Andy Fox <foxes@theriver.com>  
To: designserv@ipass.net  
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [4181] Re: Solar Panel Output Regulation  
Message-ID: <34EB2970.4DCC7094@theriver.com>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hi Sam, Lyn et al.

Lyn has outlined the two most common charge controller types. There is a third - pulse width modulation (PWM). The basic idea is that the controller makes and breaks the connection between the solar panel and the battery. Picture a square wave with the "high" state indicating a connection, and the "low" state indicating no connection. When the battery is discharged, the controller leaves the solar panel connected 100% of the time. As the battery charges (and the voltage increases) the controller breaks the connection periodically. The percentage of "on" time goes lower and lower until it is connected 0% of the time. In theory, the constant on/off doesn't allow dendrites of lead sulfate to form on the plates as easily.

There have been many reports that PWM is superior to simple shunt regulators, but I'm not sure that any formal studies have been conducted. I have used both types, and my subjective observation is that the PWM type is superior. I used a Heliotrope General CC-60A (I was actually only controlling 10 Amperes) for a year, then switched (pun intended) to a series controller, since it was UL Listed. The battery seemed to "hang out" at an overall lower voltage. There are several other potential (pun intended) factors that might have caused the apparent decrease in performance.

Home Power magazine has a column called "Things That Work." A review of the Heliotrope General CC20 PWM Charge Controller is at:

<http://sunsite.unc.edu/pub/academic/environment/alternative-energy/energy-resources/homepower-magazine/archives/13/hp13pg36.txt>

Have fun!

--

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Andy Fox, KK7HV

mailto:foxes@theriver.com  
http://personal.riverusers.com/~foxes/  
-----

-----  
  
Date: Wed, 18 Feb 1998 18:39:16 +0000  
From: Ed Loranger <we6w@qsl.net>  
To: ku7y@sage.dri.edu  
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [4182] Re: sloppy code.  
Message-ID: <34EB2AD4.63A2@qsl.net>  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

<Edited for brevity/QRP-1 guidelines>

Monte Stark wrote:

>  
> He came back and told me to send as fast as I wanted, up to about 50  
> to 60 wpm. Then he explained that he had had a stroke and could  
> not send well! We went on to have a very nice chat that lasted for  
> well over an hour.  
>  
> I have never again thought badly about how the other station sends!

What a wonderful story, Ron. I worked a guy 2 nights ago. He said he couldn't send or receive CW very well. That and 'ant is G5RV' was all the info he sent. No name, no qth. He bungled his call and mine continuously. It took 3 times and QRS at 8 WPM for him to drop the extra "W" from WE6W -- WE6W I sent, and I guess he was embarrassed

or something, and never came back. I was truly happy to have a qso at QRS or whatever and find it a pleasant challenge, and an opportunity to hone my CW skills by working someone with run-on CW. Even typically good coders using keyers often send 'CUAGN' all run together at times.... I wish I hadn't lost this guy.

>  
> Does this mean we should send bad and not worry about it? No! We  
> should have enough pride in our sending to want it to sound just  
> like a machine. And we should be willing to work at getting it  
> that way. I still remember the days of sitting there reading the  
> handbook and sending it with a bug just for practice! How many of  
> us do things like that now? :-)

For the benefit of my HR Brethren, I practice with my Les Logan #501 Bug (TKS Ken Lopez!), at least one hour each night. And I will continue to do so until I can send exceptional code at audio conversational rates.

(Basically Practice never stops) I find that as my bug work improves, the less obvious flaws in my sending unveil themselves.

>

> So just work at being able to copy CW....ALL cw, not just the  
> machine sent stuff. And remember that the person on the other  
> end might never have had someone show them how, or maybe they just  
> don't care what it sounds like, or maybe they are brand new to  
> cw, or maybe they really know better but are doing the very best  
> they can!!

>

Well said, Ron.

For those who wish to practice, I use this reference. Just amazing!

[http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/LaBarge\\_C/morse.htm](http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/LaBarge_C/morse.htm)

-Ed

--

72, Ed, WE6W/qrp CW ONLY; Proud Member: QRP-L/ARCI/Norcal/ARS/AR  
<http://www.qsl.net/we6w> (Enjoying Ham Radio every day.)

-----  
Date: Wed, 18 Feb 1998 14:00:52 -0800  
From: LYN WILLIAMS <designserv@ipass.net>  
To: "Robert P. Okas" <vintage@best.com>  
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [4183] Re: "Power Station" gel-cells  
Message-ID: <34EB5A14.B3DED2AE@ipass.net>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Robert P. Okas wrote:

> Lyn,

>

BTW, can

> you dispell the  
> myth that leaving a conventional lead acid battery on a concrete floor is  
> detrimental to its health, longevity? There was such a discussion running  
> on rec.radio.amateur.misc about 5 years ago and there was no definite



> conclusion.

Bob,

Of course the standard disclaimers still apply -- I don't claim to be an expert, I just read a lot. If you pay any attention to me, you do it at your own risk.

I suspect that this myth had it's origins in two facts:

1. Old-technology batteries used Antimony to strengthen the ribs/plates in batteries since Lead is not very strong -- just heavy. This antimony

had a side effect which was not too critical in automotive batteries because of their typical use -- a high current drain for a few seconds followed by instantly connecting them to a generator which charged them constantly. This side effect was a small but persistent discharge of about 5% per week. If anyone has added tap water to the battery instead of distilled water, then the rate of self-discharge has increased. If someone places a battery on a concrete garage floor and forgets about it for a few weeks, you can understand how a battery and concrete floor could be the subject of rumors.

2. Most of the time, a concrete floor is cool. This would tend to make the entire battery cool and thus slow down chemical reactions, including

those which you hope will occur the next time you charge the battery. This would also lend credence to the myth.

Incidentally, think about this: Assume your battery vendor stocks a large number of batteries and his turnover rate permits a new battery to stay on his shelf for 30 days or so. With the old technology batteries which had the

self discharge of 5% per week, some books I have read suggest that the sulfation would have proceeded to the point where the battery was permanently damaged! According to those books, the only way a vendor could prevent this was by recharging his entire stock at least once a week. Do you think all of them did that? I don't mean to suggest that any vendor intentionally did anything underhanded; I just point out that as technology advances we gradually improve things which were previously problems. I also carry a good digital voltmeter with me every time I go to buy a battery. Has saved money for me.

Regards,  
Lyn

-----  
Date: Wed, 18 Feb 1998 12:15:01 -0700  
From: Gary Hembree <Gary.Hembree@asu.edu>  
To: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [4184] More QRP DX Tales - 9M0C  
Message-ID: <34EB3335.236F@ASU.edu>  
MIME-version: 1.0  
Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

Since Monte, KU7Y, started this chasing 9M0C with QRP thread, I felt I should put in a plug for use of the higher frequency bands. I worked them last night with 4.5 watts PEP SSB on 15 meters. I have the equivalent of a 3 element Yagi array at 73 feet (Force 12 5BA). Their signal strength was S7. About 10 minutes later I noticed they were on 15 CW. So I used the OHR WM-2 to set the power level to "950 mW" (actually all you can safely say is it was less than 1 watt). It took about 5 minutes but I finally made it in their log. That's a lot of miles per watt!

You can work them also! Crank up the frequency and turn down the power. If you have a low dipole or a vertical, leave the power up at 5 watts. These guys are in the final 4 days of their trip and the major pileups are gone on 20 and 15 meters. They listen well up into the general/advanced CW and phone segments and transmit on 14022 or 21022 kHz and 14195 or 21295 kHz. They're also on 17 meters, usually on CW at 18072 kHz. Listen first to see where they are listening; they will almost always use a split tx/rx frequency. This is a good chance to get a rare one with QRP. Go gettem folks!

73  
Gary, N7IR  
qrp-1 1330

-----  
Date: Wed, 18 Feb 1998 12:20:15 -0700  
From: Andy Fox <foxes@theriver.com>  
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [4185] CW Advice Wanted  
Message-ID: <34EB346F.DD311C4F@theriver.com>  
MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hi,

I'm still new to CW (six QSOs and counting!), and have two quick questions. 1) What is the preferred way to turn it back to the other operator? I've heard:

AR K

BK

K

2) Is there a "correct" way to clear? I've heard the SK on either side of the call sign (sometimes both), and it seems that most people send "dit dit" on the very last transmission.

I've pored over "Beginner's Guide to Making CW contacts" and am reading "The Complete DXer" - I'm still just a little confused.

Thanks in advance and 72

--

-----  
Andy Fox, KK7HV  
mailto:foxes@theriver.com  
<http://personal.riverusers.com/~foxes/>  
-----

-----  
Date: Wed, 18 Feb 1998 11:24:58 -0600  
From: "QRPDave" <QRPDave@ocsnet.net>  
To: <QRP-L@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [4186] 1000 miles per watt  
Message-ID: <19980218192725140.AAA295@QRPDave>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=ISO-8859-1  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hi guys!

Just figgered that I could turn my HW-9 down to really low QRPp output. (It tqakes a while for the penny to drop). I operated with only 500 mw this morning and it was a blast! Isn't there a 1000 mile/watt award somewhere? What formula is used and how does one get one? Thanks. QRPp is alot of fun, especially when you tell the other guy you're only running

500 mw!  
Thanks,  
QRPDave KE6PUF

-----  
Date: Wed, 18 Feb 1998 11:28:35 -0800  
From: Laura Halliday <ve7ldh@direct.ca>  
To: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [4187] From the magazines  
Message-ID: <34EB3663.2D18041@direct.ca>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

A couple of magazine articles that caught my eye:

Electronics World (incorporating Wireless World), February 1998: "Multi-band direct-conversion receiver" by Hannes Coetzee ZS6BZP. A nice application of 74HC4066 as an RF mixer, developed by the fellow who first discussed it in RF Design, June 1995, with further discussion in RadCom's Technical Topics. He uses an OP27 op amp in his diplexer, then another OP27 and a TDA2030 as his audio amplifier.

Elektor, February 1998: "Frequency display and VFO stabilizer" by Eamon Shelton EI9GQ. A PIC-controlled frequency display, driving a standard 44780 LCD display, doing double-duty as a Huff and Puff VFO stabilizer. While the PIC's internal counter is only 8 bits wide, Eamon uses the technique developed by Microchip (App Note AN592) to read the contents of the chip's 8 bit prescaler, thus providing a 16 bit count. He does the same thing with an external 74HC393 prescaler, thus giving a 24 bit count.

I've ordered the software for the latter but don't quite believe the delivery time I was quoted. Maybe I'll just have to write my own...

...laura

-----  
Date: Wed, 18 Feb 1998 14:30:11 -0800  
From: LYN WILLIAMS <designserv@ipass.net>  
To: we6w@qsl.net  
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>

Subject: [4188] Re: sloppy code.  
Message-ID: <34EB60F3.4906840F@ipass.net>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Thanks for the reference, Ed

Some of the nicest people you meet are outwardly handicapped,  
but have seemingly endless resources within. Reference "A BRIEF  
HISTORY OF TIME".

Some of them have been very helpful to me and I try to pass it on.  
I also enjoy slowing down the code speed for practice. But as far  
as trying to sound like a machine -- no way. I want to be able to  
sound good, but still sound like a live human. Have you read the  
tales of CW operators in WWII. I understand that CW operators  
were trained in pairs so that one could be parachuted behind enemy  
lines and the other could always tell -- by the fist sound -- more than  
just the words alone would tell. For example, whether the sender was  
being forced to send something that was untrue. I also read that  
as the Japanese prepared to attack Pearl Harbor, the CW operators  
attached to the large ships involved were transferred to shore duty  
to make it appear that those ships were still in port.

Sorry to ramble -  
Lyn, W4WDN

-----  
Date: Wed, 18 Feb 1998 15:43:49 -0500 (EST)  
From: "Scott Rosenfeld [NF3I]" <ham@w3eax.umd.edu>  
To: Andy Fox <foxes@theriver.com>  
Cc: qrp-l <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [4189] Re: CW Advice Wanted  
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.3.95.980218154110.25029C-100000@w3eax.umd.edu>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

KN or BK

definitely not "K"

Actually, to be legal, the last thing you send before shutting down your

station must be your callsign.

If you don't know whether this is your last transmission (being sent at the end of a QSO), it's safer to make your callsign the last thing sent.

Way to go, Andy! dit dit

\* Scott Rosenfeld NF3I Burtonsville, MD FM19mc QRV 80-10/6/2/440 \*  
\* 6m 82 grids on 8w \* DXCC WAS WAC \* QRP-L #147 \* QRP ARCI #9054 \*  
\* <http://w3eax.umd.edu/~ham> \* ARRL Life Member /Laurel ARC/UMARA \*  
\*\*\* 301-549-1022 h 301-982-1015 w \*\*\* 35 wpm HF mobile CW Neon \*\*\*

On Wed, 18 Feb 1998, Andy Fox wrote:

> Hi,  
>  
> I'm still new to CW (six QSOs and counting!), and have two quick  
> questions. 1) What is the preferred way to turn it back to the other  
> operator? I've heard:  
>  
> AR K  
>  
> BK  
>  
> K  
>  
> 2) Is there a "correct" way to clear? I've heard the SK on either side  
> of the call sign (sometimes both), and it seems that most people send  
> "dit dit" on the very last transmission.  
>  
> I've pored over "Beginner's Guide to Making CW contacts" and am reading  
> "The Complete DXer" - I'm still just a little confused.  
>  
> Thanks in advance and 72  
> --  
> -----  
> Andy Fox, KK7HV  
> <mailto:foxes@theriver.com>  
> <http://personal.riverusers.com/~foxes/>  
> -----  
>

-----  
Date: Wed, 18 Feb 1998 14:53:27 EST  
From: K5BDZ@aol.com

To: designserv@ipass.net  
Cc: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [4190] Re: Solar Panel Output Regulation  
Message-ID: <e56b50a.34eb3c39@aol.com>  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII  
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

AAAAHHHHHH  
That's better. Thanks Lyn  
Bill, K5BDZ

-----  
Date: Wed, 18 Feb 1998 13:47:38 -0600  
From: Ed Manuel <n5em@flash.net>  
To: ki6ds@dpol.k12.ca.us  
Cc: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [4191] Re: Important Dayton Info  
Message-ID: <3.0.5.32.19980218134738.00845e60@pop.flash.net>  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

Downright, worst case of QRP-L List withdrawal I've seen in years.

There is a support group, you know.

At 03:25 PM 02/17/1998 -0800, you wrote:

>Allllllllright. We have discussed and cussed a number of subjects lately,  
>but now it is time to get down to the real nitty gritty. What was the  
>weather in Dayton like today? What will it be like in May during the  
>Hamvention???? Inquiring minds, (me) want to know. Hey, we almost had a  
>Q-Dope thread going. I did just build a Herring Aid 5 receiver and it has  
>4 toroids that need to be held down. Any suggestions? Where has Nils  
>been???? What about baab? Some of you guys have reverted back to being  
>lurkers in the weeds, and you better be careful or the badgers will get  
>you. On a more serious note, nahhhh, heck with it, this is QRP and this is  
>a hobby, it is supposed to be FUN, the Arizona ScQRPions have it right, if  
>you ain't havin' fun, you are doing something wrong. Now, how do I HTML  
>this????? What's the next QRP contest? Is it the Colorado Test? When  
>will Jeff Gold post another rig for sale? Did anybody really FTBO in the  
>FYBO contest? Where was K5FO for the past 2 weeks? He said he was coming  
>to California, but no one that I know of saw him??? Has he a new event up  
>his sleeve? Did anyone work K5FO the last 2 weeks??? Who won the FYBO

>contest? Who took last place? What was the highest operating temperature  
>anyone copied? I got a 77 from one guy. Have a good day. 72, Doug, KI6DS  
>  
>  
>  
>

-----  
Date: Wed, 18 Feb 1998 13:57:54 -0600  
From: Tim Ahrens <tahrens@inetport.com>  
To: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU, tahrens@engserv.sps.mot.com  
Subject: [4192] FOX: W5FN Preliminary Results  
Message-ID: <34EB3D42.731F081D@inetport.com>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Here's the prelim results from Monday's Fox. Thanks to all who  
bagged me! If I missed anything, please let me know, and I'll  
update Chuck with the final.

cu

Tim W5FN

| qso | time | call   | rcvd | state | name   | number                 |
|-----|------|--------|------|-------|--------|------------------------|
| 1   | 200  | N9DD   | 559  | IN    | TOM    | 342 you won Tom!       |
| 2   | 201  | KA80KH | 559  | KY    | RICH   | 933                    |
| 3   | 203  | K0EVZ  | 589  | MN    | DOC    | 860 fellow fox nabber! |
| 4   | 203  | K1MG   | 559  | CA    | MIKE   | 614                    |
| 5   | 205  | NU8Z   | 559  | MI    | MARK   | 1431                   |
| 6   | 206  | NQ7X   | 559  | AZ    | FLOYD  | 343                    |
| 7   | 208  | VE3ELA | 559  | ON    | KEN    | 1226                   |
| 8   | 209  | W6ZH   | 589  | CA    | PETE   | 257                    |
| 9   | 210  | AB7TT  | 559  | AZ    | JOE    | 101                    |
| 10  | 211  | N4JS   | 449  | NJ    | JOHN   | 883                    |
| 11  | 212  | KB9IUA | 579  | IL    | KEVIN  | 384                    |
| 12  | 214  | K6VNX  | 559  | CA    | ARLEN  | 5W                     |
| 13  | 215  | N6WG   | 449  | CA    | BOB    | 26 & old kenny         |
| 14  | 216  | W6WU   | 559  | CA    | JOHN   | 48                     |
| 15  | 217  | N4PK   | 559  | GA    | ED     | 1307                   |
| 16  | 219  | W4YNG  | 559  | AL    | HAL    | 5W                     |
| 17  | 220  | W2UX   | 579  | SC    | GARY   | 593                    |
| 18  | 221  | WB4EXW | 559  | NC    | WATSON | 5W                     |



|    |     |          |     |       |             |                    |
|----|-----|----------|-----|-------|-------------|--------------------|
| 19 | 222 | WD4MSM   | 559 | IN    | BARRY       | 542                |
| 20 | 223 | N1TP 579 | FL  | TOM   | 1317 -----> |                    |
| 21 | 225 | WB0T 579 | IA  | JERRY | 268         | hmmm cartoon time? |
| 22 | 226 | VE5RC    | 229 | BC    | BRUCE       | 886                |
| 23 | 228 | N9KW 579 | IL  | JOHN  | 1257        |                    |
| 24 | 229 | N7VE 559 | AZ  | DAN   | 5W          |                    |
| 25 | 230 | K2VCO    | 559 | CA    | VIC         | 725                |
| 26 | 231 | N6XU 579 | CA  | STAN  | 56          |                    |
| 27 | 232 | N0BS 569 | MN  | TOM   | 985         |                    |
| 28 | 233 | WA9PWP   | 559 | WI    | PAUL        | 127                |
| 29 | 234 | N0UR 559 | MN  | JIM   | 799         |                    |
| 30 | 237 | WE5W 559 | CA  | ED    | 1068        |                    |
| 31 | 238 | AB7TK    | 549 | ID    | RANDY       | 102                |
| 32 | 239 | WN4KZ    | 599 | KY    | DAVE        | 5W                 |
| 33 | 240 | N0TU 559 | CO  | STEVE | 911         |                    |
| 34 | 241 | N1QQV    | 559 | CT    | KEN         | 400                |
| 35 | 242 | N7KT 559 | AZ  | ROGER | 62          |                    |
| 36 | 245 | K5ON 559 | NM  | GARY  | 770         |                    |
| 37 | 246 | K5OI 559 | NM  | TIM   | 73          |                    |
| 38 | 247 | KI7MN    | 559 | AZ    | BOB         | 170                |
| 39 | 249 | W03B 559 | CA  | BOB   | 195         |                    |
| 40 | 251 | N6VZ 559 | CA  | GARY  | 909         |                    |
| 41 | 252 | W6HIY    | 559 | CA    | KEITH       | 675                |
| 42 | 253 | NA3V 559 | PA  | JIM   | 4           |                    |
| 43 | 257 | KK6MC/5  | 559 | NM    | JIM         | 411                |
| 44 | 258 | AA9L 559 | WI  | RICH  | 1355        |                    |
| 45 | 259 | AA0ZZ    | 569 | CA    | CRAIG       | 1230               |
| 46 | 300 | KF6CTA   | 559 | CA    | DICK        | 950                |
| 47 | 301 | N7MFB/7  | 559 | WA    | BILL        | 1215               |
| 48 | 303 | W7SSM    | 559 | CA    | JOHN        | 1048               |
| 49 | 304 | N4ROA    | 559 | VA    | DAN         | 971                |
| 50 | 306 | N8VZU/AG | 559 | OH    | DAN         | 1404 New Hunter!!  |
| 51 | 306 | VE7CQK   | 559 | BC    | PAUL        | 20                 |
| 52 | 314 | WW7Y 559 | UT  | STEVE | 94          |                    |
| 53 | 316 | WA1QVM   | 339 | MA    | JOEL        | 437                |
| 54 | 317 | K8FF 559 | OH  | WAYNE | 1360        |                    |
| 55 | 319 | W3CD 559 | CA  | BOB   | 238         |                    |
| 56 | 321 | K06KA    | 559 | CA    | ROB         | 176                |
| 57 | 322 | WB0ATR   | 559 | MN    | SCOTT       | 1455               |
| 58 | 324 | KU7Y 579 | NV  | RON   | 17          |                    |
| 59 | 325 | W6NAE    | 559 | CA    | DWIGHT      | 5W                 |
| 60 | 327 | K8DD 559 | IN  | HANK  | 246         |                    |
| 61 | 329 | KB4OBQ   | 559 | FL    | PATRICK     | 1001               |
| 62 | 331 | WA5CVM   | 579 | ME    | JOEL        | 765                |
| 63 | 333 | KF4AR    | 569 | NC    | RICK        | 402                |
| 64 | 334 | K4PYW    | 579 | SC    | GEORGE      | 1297               |
| 65 | 337 | NQ7K 449 | AZ  | MIKE  | 474         |                    |
| 66 | 341 | KB9RXE   | 469 | IN    | NEAL        | 1406               |

|    |     |         |     |    |        |      |
|----|-----|---------|-----|----|--------|------|
| 67 | 344 | WB9LKC  | 449 | WI | RAY    | 8    |
| 68 | 346 | N7CQR   | 559 | OR | DAN    | 502  |
| 69 | 348 | AE4IC   | 569 | NC | BOB    | 54   |
| 70 | 348 | K8CV    | 559 | MI | WALT   | 935  |
| 71 | 350 | N7IR    | 559 | AZ | GARY   | 1330 |
| 72 | 351 | N3XRV/M | 599 | MD | CHRIS  | 655  |
| 73 | 353 | N2VPK   | 579 | NY | MARK   | 314  |
| 74 | 354 | KF2PH   | 339 | NY | NICK   | 13   |
| 75 | 356 | KG2LO   | 339 | NJ | ROLAND | 1445 |

-----

Date: Wed, 18 Feb 1998 15:02:32 -0500 (EST)  
 From: David Williams <dwilliam@cisgw3.law.pace.edu>  
 To: "Scott Rosenfeld [NF3I]" <ham@w3eax.umd.edu>  
 Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>  
 Subject: [4193] Re: CW Advice Wanted  
 Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.3.95.980218150122.16381E-1000000@cisgw3.law.pace.edu>  
 MIME-Version: 1.0  
 Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

I once heard that the "dit dit" goes back to the days of landline telegraphy and is the same that for a locomotive's whistle when pulling out of the station.

It's a nice story, but I don't know if it's true or not. :)

Dave Williams  
 NN2D

-----

Date: Wed, 18 Feb 1998 12:04:55 -0800 (PST)  
 From: "Robert P. Okas" <vintage@best.com>  
 To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU  
 Subject: [4194] Re: "Power Station" gel-cells  
 Message-ID: <Pine.BSF.3.96.980218105522.19797A-1000000@shell114.ba.best.com>  
 MIME-Version: 1.0  
 Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

Hi Gang,  
 Lots of wonderful battery info being passed around today. I have a curious situation.

A few days ago, I picked up a couple of Gate "Cyclon" 2V 5A/H cells for a project. Coming from a surplus shop, they were cheap and also very discharged. When first placed on a charger, they would not take current. Initially, the battery voltage was the full charger output and it gradually decreased to about 1.8V as the battery began to draw charging current. I suspect these were heavily sulfated, but the high no-load voltage (~18V) did something to at least partially clear this up. I charged them for several hours at a C/30 rate the cells seem to be holding their charge. Now, can anyone explain this phenomenon? Has anyone performed an "autopsy" on a rejuvenated, once-sulfated cell? (careful now!) My aim is to determine how useful these cells will be.

73,  
Bob - W3CD

-----  
Date: Wed, 18 Feb 1998 16:10:58 -0500 (EST)  
From: Chris Cartwright <ccart@dns.vidtel.com>  
To: QRP Reflector <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [4195] FOXHUNT: Quickie State Standings  
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.3.93.980218154832.728F-100000@dns.vidtel.com>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

Still trying to clean it up a bit before I post the \*BIG\* list, but...

TX-396 CA-384 AZ-252 OK-100 MN-84 NM/NY-67

Approx 2390 Q's for the season, 55.58 hunters per fox.  
AE4IC skunked TX on 28-JAN-98, CA got 2 that night.  
Only 9 more hunts, and only DC, DE, KS, RI, VT & WY need a first pelt.  
Welcome MANITOBA, HI, NE !!

-- Chris Cartwright, Technical Engineer | ccart@vidtel.com --  
-- N3XRV ARRL-VE QRP WAS 28/13(w/c) | http://dns.vidtel.com/~ccart --  
-- QRP-L #655 NORCAL #1891 QRP-ARCI #???? NJ-QRP #105 LIQRP #???? MDmW #5 --

-----

Date: Wed, 18 Feb 1998 15:00:12 -0800  
From: LYN WILLIAMS <designserv@ipass.net>  
To: n5em@flash.net  
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [4196] Re: Important Dayton Info  
Message-ID: <34EB67FC.38B1A915@ipass.net>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Ed Manuel wrote:

> Downright, worst case of QRP-L List withdrawal I've seen in years.  
>  
> There is a support group, you know.  
>

Ed,  
That was good.  
Lyn

-----  
Date: Wed, 18 Feb 1998 12:21:19 -0800  
From: Vic Rosenthal <rakefet@rakefet.com>  
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [4197] Re: CW Advice Wanted  
Message-ID: <34EB42BF.5448A57E@rakefet.com>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Andy Fox wrote:

>  
> I'm still new to CW (six QSOs and counting!), and have two quick  
> questions. 1) What is the preferred way to turn it back to the other  
> operator? I've heard:  
>  
> AR K  
>  
> BK  
>  
> K

The way I learned was: AR K is wrong. AR at the end of your transmission means simply 'end of transmission'. It can be used when you call someone and haven't yet established contact. This is rarely used in this way today; most hams send K or KN when calling a station. K means 'go ahead, any station'. If you use K to turn it back, then you are indicating that you will accept break-ins. KN means 'go ahead, specific station ONLY'. It is the same as K, except that only the guy you are calling or in QSO with is invited to call. Finally, BK means 'break' -- it's used when you want to end a transmission without the usual exchange of calls.

Vic K2VCO

-----  
Date: Wed, 18 Feb 1998 16:34:03 -0500 (EST)  
From: Chris Cartwright <ccart@dns.vidtel.com>  
To: QRP Reflector <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [4198] FOXHUNT: Quickie State Standings (oops)  
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.3.93.980218163114.1537A-1000000@dns.vidtel.com>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

oops...

TX-396 CA-384 AZ-252 OK-100 MN-84 --->CO-81<--- NM/NY-67

-- Chris Cartwright, Technical Engineer | ccart@vidtel.com --  
-- N3XRV ARRL-VE QRP WAS 28/13(w/c) | <http://dns.vidtel.com/~ccart> --  
-- QRP-L #655 NORCAL #1891 QRP-ARCI #???? NJ-QRP #105 LIQRP #???? MDmW #5 --

-----  
Date: Wed, 18 Feb 1998 20:32:18 +0000  
From: Ed Loranger <we6w@qsl.net>  
To: foxes@theriver.com  
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [4199] Re: CW Advice Wanted  
Message-ID: <34EB4552.1FDC@qsl.net>  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Andy Fox wrote:

>

> Hi,

>

> I'm still new to CW (six QSOs and counting!), and have two quick  
> questions.

I made my first 2 QSO's in 1986 on a borrowed rig.

My third qso was in April, 1997! Pixie2 I had just built.

Today, my logbook is nearly full!!! And that doesn't include  
contest qso's which have their own sheets. So keep at it!

1) What is the preferred way to turn it back to the other  
> operator? I've heard:

>

AR is End of transmission and suggests you have no-one else  
to QSO or that you are preparing to end this qso.

> AR K

This is polite but redundant. Typically used when you  
want to make sure that all stations understand they can reply.

>

> BK

Break. Plain and simple. Be careful here, easiest usage is  
in short transmissions. Not at the end of a long 9 minute  
discertation on the meaning of life.... The other station  
may miss it. In most cases BK is used in "Chatter", back and  
forth communications which are usually question/answer sessions.

Also BK is very useful when you have a callsign ending in "K" or  
you want to be sure of the other station hears you. This is  
more prevalent in QRP under QRM/QRN conditions where the "K" might  
be missed.

>

> K

"K" is 'Go Ahead, any station'. You should use 'KN' when working a  
single station and you only want that station to respond. Typically  
KN is not used in CHATTER or Question/answer situations. KN is  
almost always preceeded by Other\_call de Your\_call KN

>  
> 2) Is there a "correct" way to clear? I've heard the SK on either side  
> of the call sign (sometimes both), and it seems that most people send  
> "dit dit" on the very last transmission.

>  
Well, there is CL as in leaving the air, and there is 'END of Schedule'  
or SK. SK means you are finished with that particular QSO and prepared  
for someone new. ALSO, many times you might send OTHER de ME AR  
in a lengthy qso, with AR suggesting you are prepared to accept their  
72 or 73 and goodbyes.

Typically you won't end your QSO abruptly with: "Stn1 DE ME TKS QSO 72  
SK ee'

Unless the other station sent you: "Me de Stn1 tks qso GN SK'

Save the 'e e' for last and is mostly common courtesy that you  
heard the other stations 'e e'.

Sometimes when you initiate the 'e e' from the other station after  
a long qso you can say: Stn1 de Me TU Nice chat CU agn GE 72 GE SK ese'  
leaving him to "e e"

Which is 'shave and a haircut, dit dit'

OK, no flames, this ain't from no book, just off-the-air observations  
by a humble ham operator.

Real life stuff.

-Ed

--

72, Ed, WE6W/qrp CW ONLY; Proud Member: QRP-L/ARCI/Norcal/ARS/AR  
<http://www.qsl.net/we6w> (Enjoying Ham Radio every day.)

-----  
Date: Wed, 18 Feb 1998 13:02:56 -0800 (PST)  
From: "S. Lee" <slee@u.washington.edu>  
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [4200] Re: Solar Panel Output Regulation (fwd)  
Message-ID: <Pine.A41.3.95b.980218130233.72748B-100000@homer31.u.washington.edu>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

----- Forwarded message -----

Date: Wed, 18 Feb 1998 09:54:38 -0800 (PST)  
From: "S. Lee" <slee@u.washington.edu>  
To: "Jim (AL7FS), Nancy (KL7NY), Juliann (WL7MP) & Issei"  
<larsennnc@alaska.net>  
Subject: Re: Solar Panel Output Regualtion

Your are absolutely correct, Jim, and I apologize to the group en masse.  
The correct URL for the LM723 is: (I swapped a period for / in 2 places)

<http://www.national.com/pf/LM/LM723.html>

For the Unitrode UC-3908 data sheet one will need to first bring up the  
Unitrode web page: (Had to take the scenic route; can directly get there.)

<http://www.uicc.com/>

Then select PRODUCTS, then select POWER SUPPLY CIRCUITS. What you will see  
is a spreadsheet style list of their product's html and pdf files. At the  
bottom of each list is an option: POWER SUPPLY CIRCUITS-Next Page. Select  
this option until the 6th page comes up

-----  
Date: Wed, 18 Feb 1998 13:17:09 -0800  
From: Tom Upton <stjohn@ocsnet.net>  
To: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [4201] RS 22-305 Frequency Counter  
Message-ID: <19980218211708718.AAA233@Default>  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

Thanks, guys and gals for the response.

Sold the Counter.

Tom AD6N

-----  
Date: Wed, 18 Feb 1998 16:22:12 -0500  
From: Ed <edn4pk@VoyagerOnline.net>  
To: foxes@theriver.com



Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [4202] Re: CW Advice Wanted  
Message-ID: <34EB5104.E5EB04CB@VoyagerOnline.net>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Andy,

I use AR K only because my call ends in a K and do not want to confuse the op on the other end of the QSO. I send BK only if the 10 minute limit between ID's has been met. As far as SK and double dit, over the years I have heard different variations of this. To me SK means I am closing down my station and do not wish any other contacts. I take it literally. My usual style is to send either a 73 .. or TU .. or CUL .. I think the general consensus of opinion will be about the same. Best advice is to use what you are comfortable with and at the same time will not confuse the other op.

Ed N4PK

CW from beautiful downtown Chickamauga ..

p.s. Any time you want to get in a little practice lemme know, will be more than happy to QSO with you.....

-----  
Date: Wed, 18 Feb 98 11:28:57 HST  
From: mike@krypton.nmr.Hawaii.Edu (Mike W. Burger)  
To: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [4203] folk lore  
Message-ID: <9802182128.AA22798@krypton.nmr.Hawaii.Edu>

According to one batch of lore:

The "Shave and a Haircut Two Bits" CW routine between two operators at the end of a transmission, cause problems after the Normandy landing. According to the legend, German intelligence always knew that a pair of Americans were passing traffic and could direction find on them and pick out the American units along the line. A captured German intelligence officer was being grilled about this and could not believe the American's were serious and about to get rough over this business, so he told them. If it is two Americans, one will always end with dit didit dit dit and the other will always go dit dit. The unauthorized practice was quickly stopped.

Probably BS, but a good story none the less

dit dit

AH7R - Mike Burger, University of Hawaii at Manoa, Dept. of Chemistry  
HI-QRP #28 - QRP-L #1053 - FISTS #3225 - BL11ch - Honolulu County

-----  
Date: Wed, 18 Feb 1998 21:55:55 +0000 (GMT)  
From: Kevin Muenzler WB5RUE <wb5rue@stic.net>  
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>  
Cc: Andy Fox <foxes@theriver.com>  
Subject: [4204] RE: CW Advice Wanted  
Message-ID: <19980218.215555.wb5rue@stic.net>

On foxes@theriver.com, Andy Fox[SMTP:foxes@theriver.com] wrote:

> Hi,  
>  
> I'm still new to CW (six QSOs and counting!), and have two quick  
> questions. 1) What is the preferred way to turn it back to the other  
> operator? I've heard:  
>  
> AR K  
>  
> BK  
>  
> K

Any of the three would be just fine. "AR K" is a more "formal" way of ending your turn. Some times if you want a quick exchange from the other station (you missed your RST) you can do something like this when he turns it over to you:

KD5RTT DE KK7HV SR OM MISSED RST, PSE SEND RST AGN BK

Usually on a long QSO where there have been several exchanges back and forth you can use the BK instead of full callsign exchanges. Be sure to ID at least every 10 minutes.

There is also "KN" which means that he wants no one else to respond, don't interrupt or call a station that ends in "KN". "SK" means that the station is signing and off the air.

> 2) Is there a "correct" way to clear? I've heard the SK on either side  
> of the call sign (sometimes both), and it seems that most people send  
> "dit dit" on the very last transmission.

Again this all comes down to operator preference. There are also "formal" methods but you won't be ridiculed if you don't do it "right." Usually I'll end a QSO with something like this:

..OK BOB, TNX FOR FB QSO 73 ES GUD DX WB3UIE DE WB5RUE AR K  
then he sends his ending round.

.. WB5RUE DE WB3UIE SK

then I usually send the dit-dit just to let "Bob" know that I got his last round.

> I've pored over "Beginner's Guide to Making CW contacts" and am reading  
> "The Complete DXer" - I'm still just a little confused.  
>  
> Thanks in advance and 72  
> --  
> -----  
> Andy Fox, KK7HV  
> <mailto:foxes@theriver.com>  
> <http://personal.riverusers.com/~foxes/>  
> -----

You might want to buy the ARRL handbook. It has some pretty good information on operating your station. It covers everything from ediquite to station safety.

Kevin, WB5RUE  
[wb5rue@stic.net](mailto:wb5rue@stic.net)

-----  
Date: Wed, 18 Feb 1998 14:07:38 -0800  
From: [ki6ds@dpol.k12.ca.us](mailto:ki6ds@dpol.k12.ca.us) (Hendricks, Doug)  
To: [qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU](mailto:qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU)  
Subject: [4205] Tuna Tin Parts Layout Error!!!!!!  
Message-ID: <3.0.1.32.19980218140738.006dfe1c@dpol.k12.ca.us>  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

The parts layout for the Tuna Tin 2 has an error. I forgot to label Q1 and C5 on the parts placement diagram. Q1 is right below C2 and has E B C labeled, but not Q1. C5 is to the right of R7. Thanks to Roger Hightower for catching this one, sorry for the inconvenience. 72, Doug, KI6DS

-----  
Date: Wed, 18 Feb 1998 14:10:25 -0800  
From: ki6ds@dpol.k12.ca.us (Hendricks, Doug)  
To: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [4206] NorCal Cases  
Message-ID: <3.0.1.32.19980218141025.006dfe1c@dpol.k12.ca.us>  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

The clam shell cases that NorCal and Wilderness Radio uses are custom made cases. They are quite expensive to produce, costing \$10 or more in units of 100, and they won't do less than 100 cases, as it is not worth the setup to them. We had overruns that we sold in the past, but none are available at this time. I am speaking for NorCal of course, and not for Wilderness Radio. 72, Doug, KI6DS

-----  
Date: Wed, 18 Feb 1998 15:09:55 -0700  
From: "Caro, Carlos" <carlos.caro@lmco.com>  
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>, "mike@krypton.nmr.Hawaii.Edu" <mike@krypton.nmr.Hawaii.Edu>  
Subject: [4207] RE: folk lore  
Message-ID: <22C29700E1CFD011920900608C14D84B3F72AD@cos141-gate55.ccs.lmco.com>  
MIME-version: 1.0  
Content-type: text/plain

> The "Shave and a Haircut Two Bits" CW  
>

Mike, don't know about WWII but during the Korean war, we were the only ones using our Z sigs in addition to the Q's per JANAP 125. If the NK's or Chinese monitored they could tell which were American unit nets.

If a station gave you a QRK/QSA of 3 or less you sent QQQ. Telling him to wipe the bird s\*\*t off his antenna.

Regards, Carlos #1333

-----  
Date: Wed, 18 Feb 1998 17:06:08 EST  
From: k7sz@juno.com  
To: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU, qrp@qth.net, tentec@contesting.com, tentec@qth.net  
Subject: [4208] T-T Scout

Message-ID: <19980218.231004.12015.0.k7sz@juno.com>

The urge has returned to pick up a T-T Scout...either the 50 watt or 5 watt model. Anyone out there have any comments pro or con on this rig? Plan on using it in the shack and in the camper (my Century-22 will be going up for sale shortly). I like the size and the price....just wondering if anyone has had any long term experiences with this little rig and could provide me some insight.

73 rich K7SZ

---

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Or call Juno at (800) 654-JUNO [654-5866]

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Date: Wed, 18 Feb 1998 22:56:25 -0500  
From: "Rich Dailey, KA8OKH" <ka8okh@som-uky.campus.mci.net>  
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [4209] re: Important Dayton info  
Message-ID: <3.0.16.19980218225409.3057c19c@som-uky.campus.mci.net>  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

Doug, KI6DS... let me attempt to answer a few of your questions as best as I can.

Rainy, rainy, hot glue, baab who? <html>, Sunday? not sure, not me, I dunno, I dunno, I dunno, probably me.

I hope this clears things up a bit.

...Rich

Rich Dailey, KA8OKH <ka8okh@som-uky.campus.mci.net>  
The KA8OKH / KB4NPI Web - <http://www.qsl.net/ka8okh>

---

Date: Wed, 18 Feb 1998 16:08:59 -0700  
From: Andy Fox <foxes@theriver.com>  
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [4210] Re: CW Advice Wanted  
Message-ID: <34EB6A0B.F11E69F8@theriver.com>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hi,

Thanks for the multitude of responses. I'm going to print them out and drag them home. It looks like there are lots of different ways to turn it over, and just as many ways to finish up.

I'll try to post a short summary in the morning.

Thanks again, and 72

--

-----  
Andy Fox, KK7HV  
mailto:foxes@theriver.com  
<http://personal.riverusers.com/~foxes/>  
-----

-----  
Date: Thu, 19 Feb 1998 00:44:13 +0200 (EET)  
From: "Arjen Raateland, FEI/Impacts Research" <Arjen.Raateland@vyh.fi>  
To: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [4211] pile-up about what?  
Message-ID: <01ITQUW1TVB88Y6T4I@vyh21.vyh.fi>  
MIME-version: 1.0  
Content-type: TEXT/PLAIN; CHARSET=US-ASCII  
Content-transfer-encoding: 7BIT

Every now and then I hear a pile-up on one frequency or another. The station that it is all about is usually so elusive I never hear it nor does the pack seem to use the other station's call, ever.

Usually these pile-ups occur in the DX segments, but tonight, lasting for at least a few hours from say 16 UTC to 18 UTC there was a tremendous pile-up of CW stations spread over several kHz's just below 7030 kHz.

As usual I couldn't discern any particular QSO's nor find the station that everybody seemed to be after - if there was such a station ;-),

File-ups clearly are not my cup of tea, but it would be kind of nice to know what the fight was over/for this time.

tnx, oh2zaz  
Arjen Raateland

Finnish Environment Institute, Helsinki, Finland  
 SAS Support  
 EMAIL: Arjen.Raateland@vyh.fi  
 tel. +358 9 4030 0457  
 fax +358 9 4030 0490

Excellently stated!  
I would add that you want to make sure your charging circuit is fairly well filtered. "Ripple" or AC component from the charging circuit can also damage the cell or limit its life. Many of the "wall wort" charger types are heavy with AC component.

```
-----Original Message-----
From: LYN WILLIAMS [SMTP:designserv@ipass.net]
Sent: Wednesday, February 18, 1998 11:00 AM
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion
Subject: Re: "Power Station" gel-cells
```

Rich,

The battery manufacturer's recommendations are the controlling factor, here. In the absence of any more information, I would recommend charging currents between 10-15% of the AH capacity. What IS critical is the voltage. Lead-acid batteries generate gas as part of their normal operation, but have mechanisms to deal with recombining the gasses up to a certain point. They gas heavily when the charging voltage reaches 2.37 volts per cell or 14.22 volts for a "12V" battery. Anytime you charge a gel cell as high as about 14.1 volts, you are risking permanent (and possibly dangerous) damage.

Another thing to consider is the lifetime of the battery. Many high-quality batteries will give a lifetime of 300 or more charge/discharge cycles if you limit the percent of discharge to around 50%, but will give thousands of cycles if you limit the percent of discharge to 10 or 20%. Conversely, the number of cycles is cut way down if you discharge over 50%.

Again, the particular battery's specs take precedence, but a "rested" battery

(one which has not been charged or discharged within the last 24 hours) will read about 12.7 volts if it is fully charged and about 11.7 volts if it is

FULLY discharged. This means that if your "rested" battery reads 12.7 volts you may actually damage it if you hook it up to a charger. Actually, it is a little more complicated than that, but if it is rested and reading 12.7

or higher, that a "float" charge current of about .05% of the battery capacity can be permitted as long as the voltage stays in the range 13.2-13.8.

Of course, this also means that if the "rested" voltage is 11.7 or below, then you have -- as a minimum -- already limited the lifetime of your battery very severely. Since there is only about 1 volt between fully charged and fully discharged, every .1 volt difference in measurement means a lot and you need a good digital meter to measure it.

When a lead-acid battery is allowed to stay discharged for any length of time, sulphate crystals can form which permanently damage the battery. This means that you should not discharge the battery and wait a week or so before recharging it.

So you need to measure the current drain of your rig and multiply that by the number of hours you are going to use it (So many hours of transmit at one current, plus so many hours of receive at another current), and compare that total ampere-hour amount with the AH rating of your battery.



It should be only one fifth of the battery's AH rating for long life, but not more than 50% of the battery's AH rating for "normal" battery life.

In addition, batteries are normally rated at so many AH provided the discharging is done spread evenly over a 20 hour period. So, if you discharge at a rate greater than the AH rating divided by 20, then your battery will not be able to deliver the rated total AH. So your transmitter current drain shouldn't exceed AH/20 for best results.

Hope this helps.

Lyn, W4WDN

k7sz@juno.com wrote:

> I distinctly remember when building my gel-cell charger from Tejas  
> (K5BDZ) that the charge current had to be limited in order to avoid  
> cooking the gel-cell. Too much charge current would drastically shorten  
> battery life. The figure 1/10th stays in my mind....and, if correct,  
> would mean that maximum charge current for a 7 amp/hr gel-cell is 700 mA.  
> The author of the article states that his charge current is limited by  
> the inline 10 amp fuse to about 2-3 amps! OUCH!  
>  
> Anybody but me think that this is dangerous? If you didn't manage to blow  
> up the gel-cell you would surely cook it within a few charges to the  
> point of replacement. Maybe I am reading the author's description  
> incorrectly, or possibly I am mistaken about recharging gel-cells.  
>  
> Can anyone shed some light on this for me? I have wanted to get a couple  
> of Power Stations for FD but have shelved the idea until I can get some  
> definitive information on this gel-cell recharging story.  
>  
> 73 rich K7SZ  
>  
> -----  
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> Or call Juno at (800) 654-JUNO [654-5866]

-----  
Date: Wed, 18 Feb 1998 23:21:40 +0000  
From: Ed Loranger <we6w@qsl.net>

To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [4213] TechAmerica Sales -- Anyone?  
Message-ID: <34EB6D04.4349@qsl.net>  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I guess when I signed up for the free catalog on the TechAmerica webpage, they now send me monthly specials available only to those who signed up on their webpage.

I won't be buying anything cuz I'm a broke, but boy, talk about opportunities!

They have this switching powersupply "MODULE", rated at 13.8 Volts at 4.2 Amps. Normally \$129.00 now it is 12.99! Advertised as "Industrial Quality".

But it is a module, so I guess there's some work to be done to use it....

Oh, Oh! There is a Solar cell battery charging system. Hooks up to your Cigarette lighter and keep the old Lead Acid car battery peaked up. Half Price at \$12.47.  
<http://www.techam.com/TAinsid3.html>

Now where is that stack of \$100.00 bills I had lying around here.....?

<http://www.techam.com/TAinsid2.html> <== for a look.

And you can visit: [http://www.techam.com/html/catalog\\_request.html](http://www.techam.com/html/catalog_request.html) to get their free catalog and sign up for these specials -- which require a special order code for the big discounts.

Standard disclaimers. Maybe someone has bought from them, but now experience with them here. Just FYI and hope someone finds a good deal.

Anyway, I hate commercial posts, but There's been a thread this week on Solar and other battery charging -- so it is contemporaneous.

Hope someone benefits.  
-Ed

--

72, Ed, WE6W/qrp CW ONLY; Proud Member: QRP-L/ARCI/Norcal/ARS/AR  
<http://www.qsl.net/we6w> (Enjoying Ham Radio every day.)

-----  
Date: Wed, 18 Feb 1998 18:22:26 -0500  
From: W2MY & W2MBY <n2mnn@spacegate.com>  
To: QRP-L messages <QRP-L@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [4214] Fox: N/T Fox Feb 21, W2MBY  
Message-ID: <34EB6D32.37C3C2BF@spacegate.com>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I am scheduled to be the N/T+ Fox this Friday evening. However, to be able to work both coasts, I am splitting up my operating time. I will be on Feb 21, 00:00 to 01:00 UTC (Friday evening local), as usual, but for one hour only. For the second hour I will be on Feb 21, 19:00 to 20:00 UTC (Saturday afternoon 2 pm EST). This should give most of you a shot at me.

I have been using N6TR logging program to send the general CQs, for the last few hunts. This reduces fatigue, and saves me for the actual exchanges.

72,

John, W2MBY  
age: 11

-----  
Date: Wed, 18 Feb 1998 15:23:12 -0800  
From: "Michael A. Gipe" <mgipe@reliablemeters.com>  
To: <vintage@best.com>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [4215] Re: "Power Station" gel-cells  
Message-ID: <01bd3cc4\$2e6f8900\$309f5ecf@double\_trouble.reliablemeters.com>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain;  
          charset="iso-8859-1"  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Bob --

>From Gates Energy Products, makers of your cells:

"...This result, which is known as sulfation, is normally reversible, but

may require a special conditioning procedure prior to use of the battery. Since sulfation increases the resistance of the cell, the most effective approach to reversing it is to use a low-rate (0.05C) constant-current charge with a supply capable of high charging voltages ( $\geq 5$  volts per cell). Even though the charger may not be able to force the set-point current through the battery, it normally will be able to force a small current through. As that current works on the lead sulfate crystals, they gradually convert back to active material and the impedance of the cell goes down.....The initial conditioning charge may take as long as 48 hrs....It is often followed by a standard discharge (0.1C) and a charge to ensure the process is completed."

I found that sometimes this works, and sometimes the battery is too far gone. I had one small sealed lead battery that started taking current at 50 volts and over several weeks, it took more and more current, so that I was very encouraged. Then the current it would take started dropping until it would take nothing at 50 volts, and would not be enticed to take any more. Sigh.

Yours sounds like you might expect a full recovery.

Mike K1MG

-----  
Date: Wed, 18 Feb 1998 18:22:57 EST  
From: N9DD@aol.com  
To: tahrens@inetport.com  
Cc: QRP-L@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [4216] Re: FOX: W5FN Preliminary Results  
Message-ID: <dea5b77a.34eb6d5d@aol.com>  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII  
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

In a message dated 98-02-18 15:05:01 EST, you write:

<< 1 200 N9DD 559 IN TOM 342 you won Tom! >>

Whoopeeee! Actually my number is 32, but I'm am happy as can be that I am in your log.

I heard you when you first came on and pounced on you when you stood by. I sent my "N9DD" and heard you reply "Hi Tom" and send your info.

I knew you had to be talking to me and sent my report, but the QRM was horrible and I never did hear you send my call. Later, I had the haunting feeling that I had imagined the hello from you and that I had stomped on your QSO with someone else.

Thanks for letting me know I my fears were groundless. It looks like you did a great job as fox. What else would you expect from Mr. "Fox Night" himself?

Tom N9DD  
South Bend, IN

-----  
Date: Wed, 18 Feb 98 15:29:04 PST  
From: Paul Erickson <paul1@wizard.ucs.sfu.ca>  
To: Arjen.Raateland@vyh.fi  
Cc: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU (qrp)  
Subject: [4217] Re: pile-up about what?  
Message-ID: <9802182329.AA04681@wizard.ucs.sfu.ca>

Hi Arjen,

>  
> Every now and then I hear a pile-up on one frequency or another. The  
> station that it is all about is usually so elusive I never hear it nor  
> does the pack seem to use the other station's call, ever.  
>  
> Usually these pile-ups occur in the DX segments, but tonight, lasting  
> for at least a few hours from say 16 UTC to 18 UTC there was a  
> tremendous pile-up of CW stations spread over several kHz's just below  
> 7030 kHz.

I'm pretty sure you were listening to the 9M0C (Spratley Island)  
pileup. They were transmitting around 7022 listening up about 6.

Find a way to work split and get in on the fun.

cheers, Paul VE7CQK/email: paul1@wizard.ucs.sfu.ca

>  
> As usual I couldn't discern any particular QSO's nor find the station  
> that everybody seemed to be after - if there was such a station ;-),  
> but with the ABX control on my Sierra in the wide position it made for  
> some nice background chatter, hi.  
>  
> Pile-ups clearly are not my cup of tea, but it would be kind of nice

> to know what the fight was over/for this time.  
>  
> Has anybody on this list perhaps heard the same pile-up and have a  
> clue what it was all about?  
>  
> tnx, oh2zaz  
> Arjen Raateland  
> ---... --- -- ... . --- ..... --- -- --... .- ---...  
> Finnish Environment Institute, Helsinki, Finland  
> SAS Support  
> EMAIL: Arjen.Raateland@vyh.fi  
> tel. +358 9 4030 0457  
> fax +358 9 4030 0490  
> .-.-. -.-  
>  
>

-----  
Date: Wed, 18 Feb 1998 15:31:11 -0800  
From: "Michael A. Gipe" <mgipe@reliablemeters.com>  
To: <Arjen.Raateland@vyh.fi>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-  
1@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [4218] Re: pile-up about what?  
Message-ID: <01bd3cc5\$4c043550\$309f5ecf@double\_trouble.reliablemeters.com>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain;  
        charset="iso-8859-1"  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

The station they are trying to call will be anywhere from 1 to 10 kHz lower in frequency than the pileup. The DX sits on a clear frequency and calls for replies "up" in frequency, so that he will not be drowned out by the masses. So next time you hear the pileup, start tuning down and listen for the DX station. Often he will be accompanied by a few stations who have no clue what "up 1" means and try to call on top of him. They, in turn will be answered by pileup police who reply, "LID". Sometimes you can find a weak DX station by looking for the "LID" police.

What you probably heard was 9M0C, the Spratly DXpedition. They are operating 40 meters near the bottom (7.005 is where I got my QS0!), and periodically shift up to 7.024 MHz in order to accommodate advanced class callers who can then transmit above 7.025.

Jump in, the pileup's fine.

Mike K1MG

-----  
Date: Wed, 18 Feb 1998 18:46:42 EST  
From: AC6JA@aol.com  
To: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [4219] SG-2020 update  
Message-ID: <5191def3.34eb72e5@aol.com>  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII  
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

spoke with SGC today and they said that the first rigs ordered will ship in two to six weeks, and that new orders now backlogged will ship after that. hopefully they'll update their webpage soon! hopefully the new rig will be worth the wait!

Mike AC6JA

-----  
Date: Wed, 18 Feb 1998 15:55:16 -0800  
From: "William S. M. Bae" <wbae@sprint.ca>  
To: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [4220] Pixie2 Problem  
Message-ID: <2.2.32.19980218235516.00ba03e8@pop3.sprint.ca>  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

I'm having some problems building WA6BOY's Pixie2 (there's an online version of the schematic at <http://www.gqrpclub.demon.co.uk/pixie2.htm>)... First I tried doing it 'ugly style,' with no success (a friend of mine has that and is trying to debug it). Then I did a PC-Board version. That worked until I tried to trim the board w/ a Dremel (wanted to fit it in a film canister :) had a var. cap in series to the xtal, could tune)... For some reason this one doesn't work anymore (checked all solder joints, broken traces; tried replacing electrolytic caps, etc) and only produces a very low audio output (I'm using headphones) and there is a 'rattling' sound heard occurring at about 4 Hz. I'm now going through a solderless breadboard version - this one produces a very loud audio output w/ the same 'rattling' sound (loud) at 4 cycles/second.

Notes:

- The rattling sound stops when the input to the LM386 (at pin 2) is disconnected, and only static is heard.
- taking out the xtal doesn't seem to make any difference (not oscillating?).
- disconnecting D1 also seems to get rid of the sound...
- tried using different transistors (using 2N3904s, tried 2N2222A & 2N2219, same result)
- Does the lead length affect the circuit that much? Dave Joseph (WA6BOY) mentioned that if the lead length of one of the elec. caps (C9, connected to pins 1 and 8 of the LM386) would drive the op amp into oscillation, is this what's happening here?
- this is my first attempt at building anything QRP, and I have limited experience in electronics, so I don't know what kind of information is relevant to report...

Any information on this would be greatly appreciated. Thanks in advance,

William Bae - VE7V0Z

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End of QRP-L Digest 1005

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